

# the chronicle

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WITH SCHOOL  
MUSICAL**  
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## Ellie dances to victory



Dancer Ellie Tonks, 17, was runner-up in the Freestyle Dance World Championships

A talented teenage dancer from Dudley leaped into the runner-up spot at an event featuring top competitors from around the globe.

Ellie Tonks, aged 17, achieved the placing in the youth category at the World Freestyle Dance Championships held at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, last week.

The dedicated youngster, who trains three times a week at Touch of Class, in Dudley, had to perform a number of moves, including leaps, pirouettes, spins and runs in her routine.

And her performance beat off

tough competition from her fellow competitors, including dancers from Scandinavia and South Africa. Ellie's dance instructor Anna Jones said she was very proud of the teenager.

"Taking the runner-up spot in this competition is a remarkable achievement," she said.

"It was the highest-attended event of its kind."

"Ellie is an amazingly talented dancer and very dedicated."

"She really is flying the flag for Dudley and we are so pleased for her."

Anna said Ellie had been a member of Touch of Class for many years.

## Titanic anchor returns

A replica of the Titanic anchor is to be returned to the community where the original was made after months of campaigning by residents. And a special event is being planned to celebrate its return to Netherton in September. The 18ft iron anchor is now on display at the Black Country Living Museum. But a planning application has been made to Dudley Council to erect it in Netherton Market Place. Residents of Netherton wanted it returned there permanently. They originally feared it would stay at the museum for good when Council leader Les Jones suggested it would be seen by more people there. The anchor will be sited outside the Savoy Centre.

## Council woman knocked down grandfather, 71

# DRINK-DRIVE KILLER GETS FIVE YEARS

A COUNCIL manager who knocked down and killed a 71-year-old grandfather as she drove home while three times the legal alcohol limit has been jailed for five years.

Kate Walker did not have her headlights on when she ploughed into aircraft engineer Brian Metcalfe on Dudley Road, Oldbury.

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard how the 32-year-old marketing manager at Sandwell Council, had downed six pints of cider, three vodkas and three gins before getting behind the wheel.

She was so drunk she fell over twice as she tried to get into her Nissan Micra, which she had parked in the mayor's car park at the Council House. She admitted causing death by dangerous driving while under the influence of drink, failing to stop after an accident and drink-driving.

Prosecutor Mr Howard Searle told the court how Walker, of Luanne Close in Cradley Heath, had started drinking at lunchtime on January 28 at a leaving party for a council colleague.

He said: "She was seen on CCTV at 10.40pm in the mayor's car park. She fell and lay on the ground for 40 seconds. She

[dudleychrons@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:dudleychrons@expressandstar.co.uk)



Kate Walker



Brian Metcalfe

zig-zagged over to her vehicle and fell on the ground a second time."

She sat in the car for 24 minutes before driving off without her lights on.

Walker drove off after hitting Mr Metcalfe but was arrested two miles away.

The heartbroken family of Mr Metcalfe told how a "moment's madness" by drink-driver Kate Walker had ruined their lives.

They spoke out after trial at Wolverhampton Crown Court. The court had heard how, despite his age, Mr Metcalfe was still working as a safety equipment supervisor in Wales.

He would return to Oldbury at weekends. He was planning his retirement and

making plans with his partner of 30 years, Gloria Hadley, to travel the world.

In a statement following the jailing of Walker, Ms Hadley, of Junction Road in Oldbury, along with Mr Metcalfe's family including his daughter Sarah Metcalfe and her two children, said: "We heard the judge say she took a chance which turned into tragedy. It is certainly a tragedy for our family."

"A moment's madness has taken one life and ruined others."

Ms Hadley earlier paid tribute to Mr Metcalfe, as "very attentive, kind and so romantic". She said: "He was a real gentleman. He would open the door for you and never let you carry anything. If he saw an old lady in the street carrying a bag, he'd offer her a hand."

Jailing Walker, Judge Amjad Nawaz said: "This is a very tragic case - very tragic for friends and family of the deceased and tragic for the defendant. There is no more painful way for such loss to occur. It put an end to the plans Mr Metcalfe had with his partner."

He added: "In my judgment, because of her state of inebriation she took a chance which turned into tragedy."

Sandwell Council said Walker was no longer employed by the authority.

## Father dies after being punched

A FATHER has died after being flogged by a single punch as his girlfriend and 10-year-old daughter looked on in a Dudley street.

Marcus Hutton, aged 30, of Dudley, was critically injured after becoming involved in an argument outside Priory Wines, in Priory Road, at 4.20pm on Saturday.

He was taken to Russells Hall Hospital in a critical condition and placed on a life support machine but died on Sunday night.

Mr Hutton is believed to have been making his way to his parents' house to help with some DIY when the attack took place. Friends suggested

the tragedy happened after derogatory remarks were made about Mr Hutton's girlfriend.

Police would not give any more details, but said they had charged a man with manslaughter on Sunday.

Relatives in Priory Road were too distressed to speak, but one resident said: "I did not really know the victim that well, just passed him in the street now and then. He always seemed nice enough."

Floral tributes were left outside Priory Wines.

One read: "To an old friend. RIP mate, you'll be missed, Den," while another read: "Saddened by the news that

you're gone." While friend John Racer, said: "Rest in peace Marcus Hutton. You were like a brother to us - we'll all miss you more than you'll ever know. God bless you, mate"

### Rumours

Now patrols have been stepped up amid rumours of revenge attacks.

Insp Richard Jones, from Dudley North police, said there had been rumours in the community of revenge attacks, and said reassurance patrols were taking place along with house-to-house visits in the area.

"We want to make people

aware that we are not ignoring these whispers of revenge attacks," he said.

"Emotions are running high because of what happened, and so, as we would always do in these situations, we are putting our resources into these places where emotions are running high."

Mr Hutton is believed to have been making his way to his parents' house to help with some DIY when the attack took place.

Delroy Hines, aged 36, of Redwood Avenue, Gornal, appeared before Dudley magistrates last week charged with manslaughter. He was remanded in custody.

## Talks on collapse of care company

Council chiefs across the region today said they were working closely with social care bosses and managers following the collapse of care home operator Southern Cross.

Bosses have met managers of homes in the Black Country and Staffordshire after yesterday's announcement that the company was to close and transfer operation of the homes to its landlords. Southern Cross employs 44,000 people nationally and runs some 20 care homes in the Black Country and five in Staffordshire.

Council chiefs in Dudley said they were working to make sure Southern Cross residents were the top priority.

Other care homes affected in the Black Country and Wyre Forest include Ashbourne in Dudley, Ashgrove in Netherton, Bryden House in Kidderminster, and Redbrick Court in Wordsley.

Dudley Council cabinet member for adult, community and housing services, Councillor Lesley Faulkner, said: "We are working with colleagues in health and other local authorities regionally and nationally to ensure the interests of residents in Southern Cross care homes are protected."

Halesowen and Rowley Regis MP James Morris recently visited Southern Cross's Roxburgh House care home, in Reddall Hill Road, Cradley Heath, to discuss the future.

The home is one of 26 in the West Midlands run by the struggling company employing around 40 workers and housing 38 residents.

## Teen faces rape claim

A Black Country teenage boy has appeared in court charged with rape, assault and kidnap.

The 16-year-old, who cannot be named for legal reasons, answered to a total of 16 charges at Dudley Magistrates Court.

He was arrested on Friday and was questioned over the weekend. He will next appear before Walsall Magistrates this Thursday July 14.

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## thechronicle

## Trade is shunning Wolves

Free parking at Dudley's Merry Hill Centre is taking shoppers away from Wolverhampton, an MP is warning.

Tory Paul Uppal said people were also more inclined to go to Birmingham and Telford to spend their cash.

He said urgent action was needed to attract shoppers back to Wolverhampton city centre. Free car parking was one solution, and the move would help bring empty shops back to life.

Merry Hill shopping centre in Brierley Hill has more than 10,000 free parking spaces. In Wolverhampton city centre there are none free before 6pm, Monday to Saturday.

The number of empty shops in the city has climbed from 134 to 142 in 12 months.

Mr Uppal raised the issue in the Commons and called for a debate on what could be done to help local economies.

Nick Edwards, the city council's assistant director for prosperity, said: "According to Which? magazine, Wolverhampton is one of the cheapest cities in the UK to park."

## Dinosaur head goes on show

Staff at Dudley Museum and Art Gallery have welcomed a new addition to their Jurassic display – a 5ft-long dinosaur head.

Visitors to the site will be greeted by the huge pterosaur which overlooks the dinosaur exhibition. The head is the work of local artist Matt Guest.

## Animal lovers rally to help with horses

Horse-lovers have jumped at the chance to offer homes to 19 stray ponies now under police protection at a secret location – after their story featured in the local press.

Officers in Dudley have been inundated with calls and emails from people wanting the ponies, which roamed streets in their search for food. More than 20 people contacted the team after it was reported the work being done by the police – helped by a young professional horsewoman codenamed Brenda – to rescue the animals.

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## Work starts on sport HQ

Work has started on a controversial new sports and social club at a Halesowen beauty spot almost two years after planning permission was granted.

St Modwen are building a clubhouse, cricket pitch and bowling green on the Coombeswood Green Wedge, off Stewarts Road. Construction work has started on to replace the existing Coombs Wood Sports and Social Club, Coombs Road. A new footpath is also being installed along the green wedge. Senior development officer Ian Romano said: "The new sports and social club will provide a cricket pitch, pavilion, practice nets and bowling green on the Coombeswood Green Wedge."

"We are creating a new public footpath on the green wedge, maintaining public access around the new club. Full public access to the green wedge will remain throughout the works. The sports club is expected to be completed next year." More than 700 people signed a petition against the plans when they were first unveiled but they were given the nod in September 2009. They argued the site was a wildlife haven.

Sgt Cliff Tomkinson, who leads the Brockmoor and Pensnett police neighbourhood team's campaign to remove the horses from danger, said, "we've had a wonderful response to the press report."

"We are vetting all of the potential new owners to make sure they have the land and knowhow to look after the ponies well but we are hopeful we will now find new homes for all of them."

Among the messages received by the police is one offering to take between one and three of the horses in a "five-star" home with three acres of land on the edge of Wolverhampton. Another is from a teenage girl in the Dudley area whose own mare died recently.

## Countryside

Many of the responses have come from farmers and other people with land in the countryside on the outskirts of the Black Country.

Their new homes will be a far cry from their existence after being turned out to find free grazing in Dudley's streets by irresponsible owners.

Dudley Council agreed to fund a six-month trial in which Brenda – given a codename to guard against the risk of retaliation by owners of the stray horses – will look after the ponies until new homes can be found for them. Police lawyers came across a Victorian-era law that allowed officers to remove horses from the streets. A total of 31 horses have been seized.

## Gap-happy without lines

Fancy a free parking space? One motorist in Stourbridge certainly struck lucky when he spotted this one in the town.

The Volkswagen fitted neatly into the gap between double yellow lines on Birmingham Street opposite scaffold supply business Cox Hire.

Passers-by claimed the gap had not been filled in for up to six weeks after the road markings were made. Dudley Council said workers revisit roads if something had prevented them from finishing the lines.

The motorist, who did not want to be named, said he had only used the gap for parking as he was late for work. "There are no lines here so I think I'm well within my rights to park here and I don't think I'm blocking any of the buses," he said. "I had been running late for work and had not parked here before."

The double yellows were part of a larger scheme ordered by transport chiefs at the council to cut congestion in the town. Student Dave Windridge, aged 17, who attends the town's King Edwards College, spotted the parked car. "It seems a bit daft that



Student Dave Windridge, from King Edwards College, looks at the car parked on Birmingham Street, Stourbridge, with double-yellow lines either side of it.

## Police action call on graffiti attacks by jobs

Jobs involved in "disgraceful" graffiti attacks on shops and properties in Halesowen have prompted a fresh plea for action from police.

The attacks were called "disgraceful" by Halesowen Police Inspector Clive Steedman at a public meeting. Buildings and property, including Tesco Express, were sprayed with paint in Stourbridge Road, at 4am on July 4. The jobs' actions were condemned by councillors at Halesowen Area Committee.

Resident Mick Freer had raised the issue through an email to the committee asking if more could be done to tackle the problem.

Insp Steedman said he had gone down to see the damage for himself which had sparked a clean-up by Dudley Council graffiti teams.

"It was a shock when we got down there just to see the amount of spray paint had been used," he said. "It is a disgraceful crime and people should not have to fear seeing this in their streets."

Insp Steedman said the force would closely work with Dudley Council to clean away offensive graffiti in the town within 24 hours.

"These acts are only carried out by a certain number of individuals as the majority of children and juveniles are great," he added.

Committee member Councillor David Vickers said costs of the clean-ups were hitting taxpayers.

"It is a very expensive thing to have to remove on a regular basis," he said.

"We recently took students from Earls High School into the town to see the graffiti that has been done recently and they were shocked."

Insp Steedman said the force had been working on its initiative called name tag with officers targeting suspect graffiti artists through their unique nicknames or tags sprayed on buildings.

## Specialist day centre to reopen after work

A specialist day centre for adults with severe learning disabilities, shut for six months while a £1.2 million refurbishment is carried out, will reopen on August 31.

The Ambleside Centre in Stourbridge shut earlier this year to undergo the work which will also see it renamed The Unicorn Centre after a pub called The Unicorn which once stood on the land between Brettell Lane and King William Street.

It will be the only centre in the borough to offer support for people with severe learning disabilities and will offer daytime support to those with the most complex needs.

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# £10,000 'jollies' are paid for by college

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Halesowen College paid around £10,000 sending teachers on trips to theme parks, go-karting and to learn circus skills.

The "team building" outings for about 500 staff at the college cost an average of £20 per head.

Staff took part in activities at venues including Alton Towers, Cheddar Gorge and Cadbury World while the college shut for a training day.

Some even visited London to see the Bank of England and the Design Museum in London near Tower Bridge.

It is the first time the excursions have been organised but college principal Keith Bate says they were "very successful" and he would consider running them again.

But the huge expense from college funds put aside for staff development was criticised as a waste of money.

There were 19 trips in total, with most held recently - and no students were invited.

## Adventure

Workers got to explore the Alton Towers sealife centre, Bletchley Park Museum, Milton Keynes and the Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford.

Some took part in an adventure course at Go Ape on Cannock Chase, others went Go Karting at Wheelspin Karting, Dudley Road, Halesowen. There was also a circus skills workshop.

Mr Bate said the college had a workforce of around 500 staff and all took part.

"It was very successful in terms of developing staff relations and helping in team building," he said. "I think it represents value for money at £20 a head."

But John O'Connell, research director of the Taxpayer's Alliance, said: "This is a huge amount to spend on jollies for staff only one day after thousands of schools up and down the country shut as many teachers went on strike."

Ward councillor Karen Shakespeare said: "I would be interested in asking the college what the benefits of the trips were."

## High School Musical show

Young performers will be taking to the stage in Brierley Hill for a production of Disney's High School Musical this month.

Members of the youth section of the Brierley Hill Musical Theatre Company have been preparing to stage the show since March.

Performances will be held at the Brierley Hill Civic Hall on July 22 and 23, with the show starting at 7.30pm.

A 2.30pm matinee performance will also take place on July 23.

Jo Gresswell, one of the production team behind the show, said: "Rehearsals have been going very well. We have built the set and got the costumes ready. Everyone is really excited for the show and it will be a great family production."

Eighteen-year-old Sam Wakelam will be taking on the role of Troy, while 20-year-old Rachel Gresswell will be performing as Gabriella. Jenni Laws, 16 will be playing Sharpay and 15-year-old Michael Astley will be playing the role of Ryan.

Tickets are £8 and can be bought by calling 0845 658 8195.



Back, Mike Astley, aged 14, James Lawley, 17, Faye McCue, 14, Sam Wakelam, 18, Toni Mander, 15, front, Myles Harper, 14, Katelyn Laws, 13, and Ricky Large, 15

## Invite to history meeting

Amblecote History Society is looking for new members and holds meetings on the second Wednesday of every month at the Church Hall, in Vicarage Road, Amblecote, from 7.30pm. New members can join up to the group by attending one of the meetings. The next meeting will be held on August 13 and will be a guided walk around the town follow-

ing where its old tramline used to run. People who would like to attend can gather next to the glassblower statue on the A491 at 10am. There is a charge of £2.

The September 14 meeting will see an illustrated talk on the history of Ironbridge. It will be led by Brian Draper who will detail the area's unique history.

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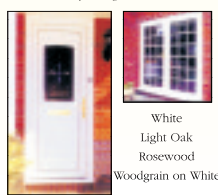
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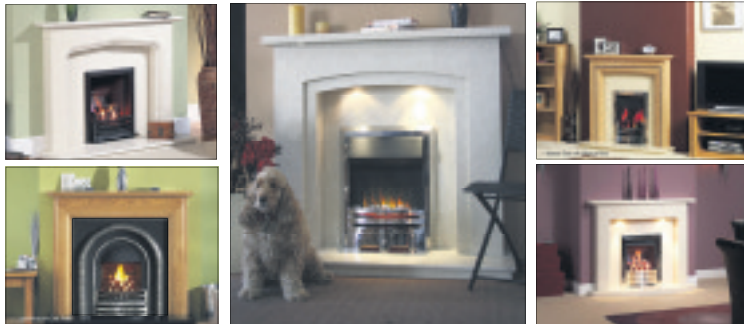
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## thechronicle

# Zoo has chicks' survival taped



These two Satyr Tragopans can now walk properly thanks to birdkeeper Nicola Wright

Nifty footwork by birdkeepers at Dudley Zoo has ensured the survival of two rare, newborn chicks.

Staff at the attraction noticed a couple of tiny Satyr Tragopans, which is a type of pheasant that originates from the Himalayas, had been born with deformed feet.

They feared the birds would be unable to walk properly and might not survive but the quick-thinking keepers came up with the solution – a roll of medical tape.

They used it to separate the birds' toes and form a splint, and it looks like the measure has proved a success.

Joint head of birds Nicola Wright said: "The birds' feet were quite badly misshapen and there was no way they could

have survived like that so we decided to reset the toes.

"It was a really fiddly exercise as the feet are so small, but we persevered and managed to get it done and, thankfully, it seems to have worked and the feet are now straight and as they should be."

She added: "Initially we weren't sure how to save them, but curator Matt Lewis remembered the tape technique he had used more than 20 years ago in a similar situation, so we decided to have a go." The medical tape was applied when the birds, now six weeks old, were born. Nicola added: "Unfortunately the tape dissolves when it gets wet and there may be a risk of infection so we have to replace it every day."

## Crackdown on leaving dog mess

A crackdown has been launched on dog owners who fail to clean up their pets' mess in public places.

Enforcement officers from Wyre Forest District Council have been carrying out special patrols and speaking to pet owners.

They want to know how much people know about the penalties for not removing dog mess and to reinforce the importance of cleaning up after pets.

Stencils have also been used to paint signs on park pathways to highlight that on the spot fines of £50 can be dished out to people found flouting the rules.

Failure to pay the fine can result in a fine of up to £1,000.

The crackdown has been launched as part of a bigger campaign called Love Your Place which encourages residents to report problems with litter, flytipping and graffiti.

Forest District Council Councillor Marcus Hart said: "There are a minority who continue to act irresponsibly."

## Volunteers help with clear up



Volunteers Matt Cook and Melissa Brown helping to clear away the undergrowth

Volunteers have worked hard to clear up a local conservation area.

Seventeen volunteers from npower's Oldbury offices cleared away brambles that had become a problem for birds and wildlife at the Leasowes Park, Halesowen.

After the wardens and

rangers cut down the bramble, the team swooped in to rake, transport and finally dispose of the unwanted foliage on compost heaps outside the field.

Kerris Smith, team leader at npower Oldbury, said: "We are all office-based workers and so the

task wasn't exactly a walk in the park but local conservation is important and I am thrilled that we were able to work as a team to make a difference to this historical area."

The team spent a day removing the brambles as part of their ongoing volunteering at the park.

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thechronicle

# Elgar's diary is found in vault

A diary which one belonged to Worcestershire composer Edward Elgar has been discovered in an underground vault in Worcester.

The diary, which has been stored in the basement at Worcester Library, was written by an upper-class man who lived in Georgian times – a period in which Elgar took a keen interest.

Penned by William Wilmot, a wealthy Derbyshire man, the diary is a record of his daily life. Sir Edward Elgar bought it at an auction sale at

Malvern and desired it should find a permanent home in the Worcester Public Library.

The diary features notes penned by Elgar himself. The composer from Lower Broadheath, near Worcester, is celebrated worldwide for works such as Nimrod and the Dream of Gerontius. Worcester Library is in the process of clearing out its basement, which houses duplicate stock and the remains of the original Victoria Institute Library, in preparation for the its

relocation to The Hive next year. The diary will be kept alongside other Elgar-related items.

Worcestershire County Council libraries and learning manager Kathy Kirk said: "The basement is a bit of an Aladdin's cave."

General manager for Museums Worcestershire, Iain Rutherford, said: "It was particularly pleasing to uncover the William Wilmot diary, which sheds a fascinating light on the life of a Georgian gentleman."

## Students in poster victory

Two students have won a competition to design a new poster to promote numeracy and literacy skills to fellow students.

Amy Young and Kirsty Garbut, both aged 18, were announced the winners of the contest run by Halesowen College.

The Whittingham Road college's personal skills development scheme provides numeracy and literacy support to students who are working towards maths or English GCSE.

Amy and Kirsty, who are both studying the level three extended diploma in health and social care, received £35. Amy is a former pupil of Kingswinford School and Kirsty attended Oldbury College of Sport before going to the college.

Second prize went to Dannie Watkinson and third place went to Tammy Anne Stokes, who received £10 each.

## Call for donors

Blood donors are wanted at Bewdley High School, Stourport Road, on July 16 at 9.45am-noon and 1.30-3.30pm. For more information call 0300 1232323.

## Museum aims to be beside the sea

Sun, sea and sand is in store at Broadfield House Glass Museum's Beside the Seaside event.

A Punch & Judy show, giant sand pit, donkey rides, hook-a-duck, glassmaking demonstrations, a display of seashells and craft activities will be on offer for the event.

There will also be a treasure hunt and prize draw with a seaside goodies hamper, donated by Boots, up for grabs.

Homemade ice cream and sweets along with BBQ food will be available, and visitors will be entertained by a brass band playing tunes associated with the seaside.

The event this Saturday, July 16 runs from 10am to 4pm. Admission is free but there will be a small charge for some of the activities.

Environment chief Councillor David Stanley, said: "Our museums offer a wonderful range of activities throughout the summer and this free family event looks set to be one of the best."

The event coincides with the museum's Beside the Seaside exhibition, which runs until September 4, and features a large range of artworks including glass, ceramics, jewellery, enamels, textiles, paintings and prints.

For more information call 01384 812745, or log on to [www.glassmuseum.org.uk](http://www.glassmuseum.org.uk) website.



Dudley Council officer David Cole prepares for the glass museum's seaside themed fun.

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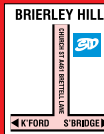
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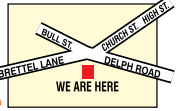
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# People's views on village's high street are flooding in

## TV star shares her tips on parenting



Stacey Solomon at Merry Hill with left, Terri Nightingale, and her daughter, Libby, four, and her friend, Liane Page, and her daughter, Ruby, three, on right

Reigning Queen of the Jungle Stacey Solomon shared her parenting tips with mothers when she visited Dudley's Merry Hill Centre.

The 21-year-old, who starred in ITV's I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here! in November, co-hosted the 'Tummy to Mummy' mother and baby event.

She also met Westfield competition winner Terri Nightingale, her four-year-old daughter, Libby, and friend Liane Page and her three-year-old daughter Ruby. It comes hot on the heels of her being crowned Celebrity Mum of the Year 2011 by sponsors Foxy Bingo.com which she described as "a massive compliment". Solomon said: "I have to balance it like any parent who works nine to five, and as long as I'm there for him that's what's important. I want to make a life for him so he can have a good future. If there was a real Mum of the Year it would be my mum, Fiona."

## New 'virtual ward' to help cut hospital admissions

GPs in Wyre Forest are launching a new "virtual ward" scheme aimed at reducing the number of people admitted to hospital for conditions which could be treated at home.

It means patients most at risk of admission to hospital can be identified and given a high level of care, tailored to their needs. Helping to treat more people in their own homes instead of in hospital is designed to offer patients better care. Wyre Forest Clinical Commissioning Group has teamed up with the New Worcestershire Health and Care Trust, to create the virtual ward which will see a new team of district and specialist nurses as well as physiotherapists and social workers do daily rounds of patients' homes.

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Letters and emails have been flooding into a parish council after residents were invited to give their views on controversial changes to a village's historic High Street.

Kinver Parish Council said there had been a "constant and steady stream" of opinions sent in over the past few weeks and more were expected over the next month.

The council has asked Staffordshire County Council to carry out a review of the changes following complaints the work has made the road more dangerous now.

Businesses also say trade in the village has plummeted since the £900,000 scheme was completed earlier this year.

The review is to take place later in the year and the parish council asked residents and traders to submit their views which will be presented to the county council.

### Interest

Parish Council clerk Jenny Spaul said there had already been a high level of interest from the community. But she said the exact number of views submitted had not yet been counted.

"A count will take place but not until later on in the process, probably in August closer to when the review is expected," she said.

"There has been a constant and steady stream of correspondence received so far. At the moment all correspondence received on this is being placed in a file so it can be fully analysed at a later date.

"We want to have more views submitted before we start working on the document which will be sent to the county council."

Among the comments already received are complaints from residents and traders that traffic queues are being caused because of "pinch points" along the High Street and there is little room for delivery lorries to park up.

Villagers' comments can be delivered to the parish council at 95, High Street, Kinver, DY7 6HD, until August 26.

## Inspectors praise 'friendly' school

A Black Country school has been praised for providing a "family atmosphere" for pupils and its thorough but friendly approach to learning.

Thorns Primary School, Thorns Road, Quarry Bank, is celebrating the findings of its most recent Ofsted inspection and aims to build on the positive report and the progress it has made.

The report states the school has "a family atmosphere where pupils, staff, parents and carers are all valued and cared for". Early learning at the school, providing youngsters with a strong grounding in basic subjects such as writing, was also singled out for praise.

Comments from one parent included in the report said all of the staff were friendly and approachable.

Headteacher David Priestley said everyone at the school was very pleased with the report.

"Our main aim at the school is to provide a safe and caring atmosphere for youngsters to learn and it is wonderful this has been recognised in the recent inspection," he said.

"The pupils, staff and parents have all worked very hard to achieve this. Good progress is being made at the school and we will work to ensure it continues."

The Thorns also runs after-school clubs for youngsters including dance, football and music groups. The school is also running an after-school science club in partnership with Thorns Community College.

Mr Priestley added: "We want to give youngsters a varied curriculum and provide them with every opportunity to learn."

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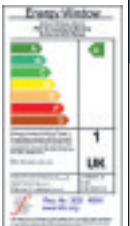


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**thechronicle**

## Just the ticket for Olympics



Just the ticket for Steve Amos

Halesowen building firm boss Steve Amos feels like he's one in a million after getting tickets for the 2012 Olympics to watch the top event of the championships – the 100 metre final.

He's been voted the "best stepdad in the world" by his wife's son, who will sit alongside him to watch record holder Usain Bolt defend his Olympic title.

Steve, aged 41, of Portway Road, Rowley Regis, who is managing director of Amos Builders, Fairfield Road, paid £590 for the two tickets under the Olympics ticket allocation process.

More than a million people applied for tickets for the evening of Sunday,

August 5 when the event will take place. Only 40,000 places were made available for the public, with the other 40,000 seats in the arena going to sponsors, VIPs and the media.

"I'm over the moon – I only applied for the two tickets so I feel very lucky to have got both, especially when I was up against one million others," said Steve.

He wanted the tickets as a treat for his wife Kita's son Dave Singh, 22, who is a keen athletics fan.

"I kept quiet about making the application," said Steve. "Now Dave thinks I'm the best stepdad in the world."

## Teams call for footie contest

A Halesowen youth club is appealing for teams to compete in a five-a-side charity football tournament.

Young players who attend the Yemeni Community Association Youth Club have organised the fundraising event, which is set to take place this Saturday, July 16.

Around 80 players will compete for trophies and organisers hope teams from the whole community will come forward.

A total of 24 youth and adult teams are invited to join the competition at a cost of £35 per team.

The Halesowen and Dudley Yemeni Community Association, Highfield Lane, is a registered charity which has been active for more than 20 years.

All funds raised for the tournament, to be held from 11am-3pm at Powerleague Soccer Centre, Park Road, will go towards building a new community centre.

To download an application form for the tournament visit [www.ycahalesowen.org.uk](http://www.ycahalesowen.org.uk), or for more details call Wail Shaddad on 07736 973138.

## Ordinations at the cathedral

Four vicars from the borough have been ordained in Worcester Cathedral to serve in parishes across the diocese.

The Bishop of Worcester presided at a two day ceremony which saw nine candidates entering their first year of training as a curate and eight priests moving on to preside at the Holy Communion.

Newly Ordained deacon Jane Arnold will serve in Kingswinford, while Emma Stanford joins the Wordsley team.

Diane Cooksey is now the new deacon in the parish of Churchill with Blakedown and Broome.

Robert Parker-McGee was also ordained priest and will work in the benefice of Gornal and Sedgley. The Bishop of Dudley and the Reverend Canon Alison White, adviser for spirituality and spiritual direction in the diocese of Newcastle, were also present at the services.

Reverend Dr John Inge, the Bishop of Worcester, said: "It is a great privilege for me to be able to ordain this very impressive group of people."

"They have discovered the love of God in their lives and have decided to devote themselves to bringing that love to others. The church and all of society will be hugely enriched as a result."



Jane Arnold, Robert Parker-McGee and Emma Stanford



Diane Cooksey



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## thechronicle

# Doomed school is earmarked for sale

dudleychrons@expressandstar.co.uk

A doomed Dudley high school has been earmarked for sell-off as council bosses seek to cut their losses amid budget cuts.

The former Pensnett High School, now a learning centre for Year 10 and 11 pupils to finish their GCSEs, will close for good at the end of August next year. The future of the building depends on whether anyone wants to buy the site.

The school costs £300,000 a year to keep open, a burden on the department which needs to make £12million savings in the next three years.

Children's chief Councillor Liz Walker said: "Some people have asked whether we can make use of the building, but it would cost a lot of money we can ill afford."

"Unless a private investor comes along to fund it, I imagine we will cut our losses and sell it off."

## Resources

"Its future will depend on whatever our corporate resources department decides to do with it."

She said the school's sports hall, playing fields and adjoining community centre - all of which were lottery funded - would remain in place.

The school closed in July last year, reopening in September to allow 134 GCSE students to complete their studies.

Other students were transferred to The Wordsley School, The Crestwood School and Summerhill School in Kingswinford.

"All the students are progressing very well," Councillor Walker added.

News of closure was met with outrage after proposals to merge the school with Crestwood School, Kingswinford were scrapped in 2009.

Councillor Walker said the authority had been forced to reconsider the school's future because of falling pupil numbers and plummeting grades.

In 2009, only 19 per cent of students achieved five grades at A\* to C including English and maths.

## Vintage way to help charity



Town crier Percy Simmonds and shop manager Claire Harris with from left, volunteers Audrey Price and Margaret Holland and Councillor Colin Banks

Shoppers can raise funds for a good cause through a new store which has opened in Dudley town centre.

Retro-Spective is a new vintage clothing and household goods store which has opened on New Street said to be one of the only stores of its type in the region - as it combines both clothes and goods for the home.

The Beacon Centre For the Blind is behind the new store - which will have a different feel and look to its

charity shops - and say if it proves a success it could be rolled out across the Black Country.

Tracey Ford, retail operations manager, said: "Vintage is very much a key trend this year."

She said the store will sell clothes from before the 1980s which have the right look and household goods for the home that sit well in today's more contemporary setting. The store is open between 9am and 4.30pm.

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Artist and metal worker Luke Perry works on his latest piece he has created for Art on the Cut

## Luke cuts his way to create canal art

A MONUMENT maker from Wollaston is producing more than 30 pieces of art as part of a £500,000 community project based along a Dudley canal.

Industrial artist Luke Perry, of Duncan Street, will create 33 permanent steel sculptures to stand along the 4.5 mile stretch of the Dudley No 2 Canal, which runs from Blowers Green to Gosty Tunnel.

Reflecting the industry and history of the Black Country, the pieces are being produced as part of Art on the Cut, a project run by the Dudley Canal Trust and funded through a special grant from Changing Spaces.

The 5ft creations, costing £35,000, will be on show from July 31; the first was fitted at Highbridge, in Netherthorpe, last Wednesday (July 6).

Luke, aged 27, who owns Industrial Heritage Stronghold, based in Cradley

**Story: Sarah Hazelwood  
Pictures: John Sambrooks**

Heath, has had just four months to prepare for the launch since approaching the trust to offer his services.

"This is the most ambitious project I have ever undertaken because of the short amount of time to create so many pieces which will stand the test of time," he said.

"It has been an honour to create such unique tributes which will act as a true reflection of the history of the Black Country for generations to come.

"I hope it brings more people to the canal because it really is a great place to be and these sculptures will bring even more character and history to the area. I am really grateful for all the local firms that have helped me and I am really looking forward to seeing them all in place in a few weeks time."

The company is a non-profit organisation which specialises in creating public artworks to celebrate industrial heritage in the local area.

All of the sculptures are being created at Solid Swivel, in Cradley



Artist Luke Perry with one of the pieces of work he has created for the Art on the Cut and, right, his take on a lamp lighter

Heath, a company which Luke's family have run for more than a century.

Mark Hannon from Midtherm Laser, Peartree Lane, has also offered his services to ensure the pieces are finished in time for the launch and Luke was joined by Oldfield Reclamations, of Old Hill, which helped him dig more than 30 tons of foundation for the sculptures to stand.

For more information about the display or the launch visit [www.dudleycanalart.com](http://www.dudleycanalart.com)



Luke strikes a pose with one of his creations



Luke Perry with one of the moorhens he has created



Luke's tribute to Grazebrook Iron Works



# Pink army of women in race for charity funding

Thousands of women turned the grounds of a stately home into a sea of pink as they gathered to raise thousands of pounds for the battle against cancer.

Around 3,500 competitors from across the region turned out for two races held at the second Race for Life event at Himley Hall, Dudley.

Women taking part dressed in pink cowboy hats or donned flamboyant feather boas and bunny ears to run, jog or walk the 5km course, many in honour of a loved one.

Both races – one in the morning, one in the afternoon – were the first in the entire country this year to be fully attended.

Cancer Research officials said they expected to have raised around £200,000 from the races.

Paediatric oncologist at Birmingham Children's Hospital Pam Kearns crossed the finish line first in the 3pm race in a time of 25 minutes 32 seconds.

The 51-year-old, of Wheaton Aston, Staffordshire, is running 10 races to raise awareness of how cancer affects children.

Sunday's event was her fifth com-

pleted race – and the first one she has won. She said: "My main aim in running these races is to raise awareness of children affected by cancer."

"Although it is rare it is still the cause of many deaths. Seventy five per cent of children diagnosed with the condition are cured but we want to do that through research. That is why events like this are so vitally important." Also taking part in the run were twin sisters Victoria and Diana Morton, 27, and their mother Chris, 54.

## Laser

Chris, of Ambridge Way, Sedgley, was diagnosed with cancer 14 years ago and underwent laser therapy at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital.

Chris has raised £300 for the charity through sponsorship, Victoria, a receptionist at Intelligent Solutions in Brierley Hill, £150 and her sister, who is receptionist at the Copthorne Hotel, also Brierley Hill, a further £150.

Sisters Karen James, 48, and Christine Swan, 61, were also taking part in the run in honour of their mother Elizabeth Brownhill. Mrs James, of Calvin Close, Wombourne, said: "Our mother died of breast cancer 20 years ago when

she was aged 65. We wanted to do something to honour her and to raise money for the cause." They have raised around £100 for the charity through sponsorship.

Lesley Abbey, 46, of Muirfield Crescent, Tividale, was running the race with her 15-year-old daughter Lizzie.

Together they have raised around £500 for the charity and it was the first time either of them had taken part in the event.

Chris Sinar, 60, of Worcester Road, Willenhall, and daughters 32-year-old Jayme and 41-year-old Zoe ran the race for husband and father Mel. Mrs Sinar said: "My husband died around six-and-a-half years ago after being diagnosed with bowel cancer," she said.

Sisters Maria Tongue, 42, of Beechcroft Road, Wall Heath, and Jane Douglas, 46, of Grove Park, Wall Heath, were also among the competitors taking part.

Maria was competing in honour of her husband's mother Josie Tongue and Jane for a friend of their father's named George Allan. They have raised £200 for the charity.

Ballie Nizzer, 35, of Great Bridge, was running the race with a group of her friends, who all wore false pink eyelashes.



Kelly Tibbitts, Chris Sinar, Jaymie Sinar, Linda Brown and Zoe Pearce with, front, Kerry Longmore, get ready



Maria Tongue, Claire Norton, Sharon Morgan and Jane Douglas tune their antennae in readiness for the big race

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COMPETITION

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to experience the world of Batman.

The tour comes to Birmingham's NIA on August 17 - 21. Tickets are priced at £20, £30 and £35 (subject to booking and transaction fees) and are available now from The Ticket Factory: The Ticket Factory: [www.theticketfactory.com](http://www.theticketfactory.com) or 0844 338 8000.



### HOW TO ENTER

To stand a chance of winning one of the family tickets simply answer the following question.

Which city does Batman live in?

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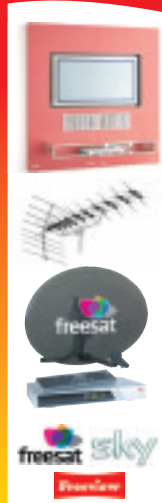
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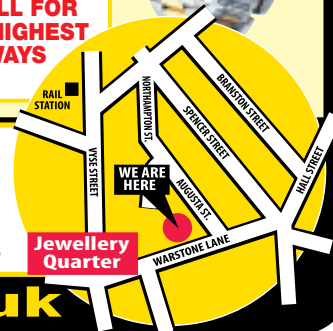
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## thechronicle

## Value of council's housing plummets

The value of Dudley Council's houses has dropped by £200 million – nearly a third – because of the struggling property market.

Residents' rent and tax will not be reduced despite the drop though, councillors have warned. The properties were revalued by the Government during the last financial year as part of a five-yearly process.

Though the value of the 23,000 properties has dropped by £198m the council has said the amount people will have to pay will not be affected by the financial shocker.

Housing chief Councillor Adrian Turner said: "Council tax is calculated using a separate system that takes into account all properties, including private dwellings, so that will not change."

"Rent is not necessarily reflected by changes in the value of the council's housing stock so people should not expect this to have an effect on what they pay."

Council finance chiefs argue the figure gives an overall value for the authority's property assets.

The drop equates to an average of £8,600 per property – and Councillor Turner has blamed the property market crash and a different formula being used to calculate the values.

He said: "There was bound to be a change in the values since the last valuation after what has happened with the economy."

The council is looking to sell 93 empty properties that have fallen into disrepair.

## Yugo to Ian and find out more about classic cars

It was a car designed by workers in the depths of Communist Yugoslavia by a former weapons manufacturer. Now a Dudley classic car enthusiast is leading a search for the last remaining examples of the vehicle on Britain's roads.

Car rental firm vehicle inspector Ian Macaulay, from Halesowen, first developed a passion for cars from a bygone age through quintessential British classics like Morris Minors and MG Midgets. But with the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, his hobby heralded a new dawn with an influx of Soviet and communist-made vehicles.

dudleychrons@expressandstar.co.uk

## Family fun day will boost vital hospice funds

Hundreds of families are expected to turn up to a summer fair in Stourbridge this month to raise funds for a good cause.

Last year more than 700 attended the extravaganza held by Mary Stevens Hospice which raised around £9,000 for the charity and bosses are hoping for similar numbers this year.

Attractions lined up include a performance by the Gigolos Jive Band as well as a dog agility show and a variety of dance and fitness displays. Visitors will also get the chance to take part in a beat the goalie tournament and see alpacas and greyhounds up close.

There will be stalls, tombolas, plants and haberdashery among other things while a raffle is being held for someone to win the chance to drive a Jaguar for the weekend, courtesy of Stratstone Jaguar, Lye.

The fair will be held on July 16 in the park grounds at the back of the hospice and will run from 11am until 3.30pm.

The event will open to the sounds of The 2488 (Kingswinford) Squadron ATC Band and Pegasus Community Radio will be providing the music and announcements throughout the day.

Details be found at [www.marystevenshospice.co.uk](http://www.marystevenshospice.co.uk).

Famous brands like Russian Ladas, Czech Skodas and Polish made FSOs were being imported in greater and greater numbers for British motorists keen on cheaper alternatives.

But it was one car which caught Mr Macaulay's eye – the Yugoslavian produced Zastava-Yugo.

"It was quirky and different compared to everything on the roads at the time and especially classic British cars," he says. "I'd always had a passion for other British cars but I was intrigued by these Eastern European cars obviously because they were less well known and seemed interesting." Mr Macaulay, aged 53, already owned an East German Trabant made in 1989. But after a private collector based in Penzance, Cornwall, decided to sell his Yugo, Mr Macaulay jumped at the chance to bring it up to the Black Country.

He paid £650 for the car three years ago but says he had to spend even more on renovations.

## Covered

The model is a Yugo 311 three door 1100cc built in 1983. It has covered just 24,000 miles and Mr Macaulay believes it is one of just seven surviving vehicles, only five of which are on the road. Around 70,000 Yugos of all types were exported to the UK from the former Yugoslavia between 1981 and 1993. According to the latest figures obtained from the DVLA there are now 118 Yugos of every model on its database with just 54 currently in use on British roads.

Around 12 months ago, Mr Macaulay joined forces with another Yugo enthusiast Phil Dust, from Staffordshire, to form the Zastava-Yugo Club UK in its honour.

The club boasts 26 members who collectively own around 40 cars. Mr Macaulay also helps edit its quarterly magazine snappily called 'Yugo Your Way' and run the website [www.zastava-yugo.co.uk](http://www.zastava-yugo.co.uk)

New members are welcome with the club particularly interested in tracing the owner of a Yugo seen in the Dudley borough.

"Clearly similar vehicles exist which are not yet known to the club and this is strongly evidenced by a car identical to mine which I recently spotted being driven through Netherton by the Cinder Bank island," he said.

"It would be great to be able to trace them." To find out more about the club can call 07732 054569 or email [mac311@zastava-yugo.co.uk](mailto:mac311@zastava-yugo.co.uk)



Ian Macaulay with his Zastava Yugo 311. He has started a club, the "Zastava Yugo Owners Club", and is looking for new members

## Opposition to 24-hour burger bar

Controversial plans by McDonald's to open its diner in Coseley under the clock have come under fire from families.

A petition against the proposals has been signed by 45 neighbours.

They fear opening the Birmingham New Road branch 24/7 would bring more late night noise, bad behaviour and littering.

At present the branch is open for business from 7am until 11pm.

They point out people only have to travel a mile to Bilston, where there is already a McDonald's which is open 24 hours a day but is not near any homes.

The fast food giant says it has consulted police and increased security to prevent anti-social behaviour.

One of the people objecting, Michael Westwood, of Ivyhouse Lane, said: "We already have noise, smells, litter and anti-social behaviour problems."


The application will be decided by Dudley Council in the coming weeks.

## Bike charity seeks wheels

Cyclists in the Wyre Forest district are being urged to donate unwanted bikes to a charity which provides training and employment opportunities for young people.

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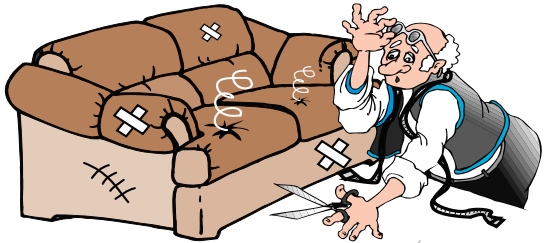
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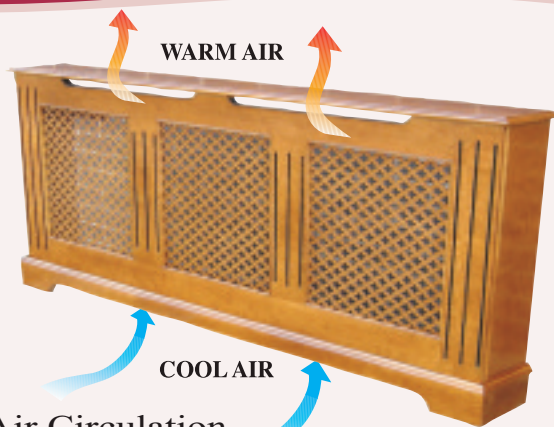
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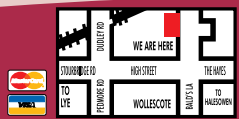
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## REVIEWS

thechronicle

# Mad mix of farce which fizzles out

## No surrender - Alan Bleasdale

Almost 30 years ago Liverpoolian playwright Alan Bleasdale made his name with the seminal *Boys From The Blackstuff* which was a follow-up mini-series to his original drama *Blackstuff*.

He was responsible for irritating the then Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and showing a gritty and despairing view of life in his home city as it tried to struggle with recession, poverty and social breakdown.

Three years later he reunited quite a few of the cast for a full length film which had all the ingredients for an explosive farce. Sadly, *No Surrender* smoulders for too long and then fizzles out like a damp squib.

The film has a sterling British cast which includes not only Michael Angelis, who many will know as the voice of Thomas the Tank Engine; Bernard Hill who was known to millions in the 80s as Yozzer "gizzajob" Hughes and more recently as King Theoden in the epic *Lord of the Rings*, but also boasts James Ellis, Joanne Whalley, Ray MacNally and Michael Ripper.

## Nefarious

Angelis is the new manager at a dive of a nightclub, The Charleston, in an obviously run down area of Liverpool which is a front for the local crime boss to carry out his nefarious activities.

Unbeknown to Angelis, heading towards the club to celebrate New Year's Eve, is a wanted and ageing IRA terrorist running from the law who is using the threat of violence to get help from a former comrade.

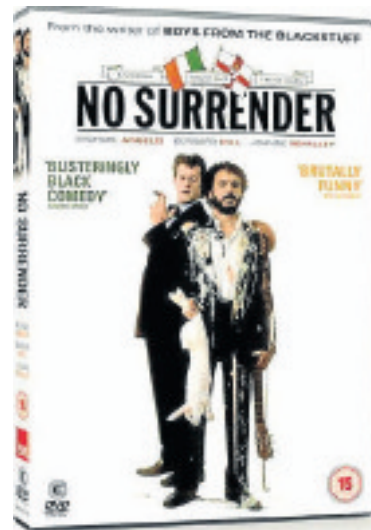
Add to this two parties of troublesome pensioners from the opposite ends of the religious spectrum - one lot from a catholic social club, the other all staunch Protestants; a totally inappropriate punk band; a lousy magician, played strangely enough by Elvis Costello and a dreadfully unfunny comedian, all of which have been organised by the previous boss of the club in some twisted act of revenge.

What follows is a series of pseudo-sketches which try to showcase the legendary wit of the Scouser in the face of adversity but unfortunately even back then, when they were trying to be cutting edge, most of the jokes were as tired sounding as the cast.

## Realism

This is a film which doesn't know what it is, what it wants to do or what it wants to say as it heads towards its tragicomic conclusion.

It has Bleasdale's realism but it lacks his grittiness and humour gleaned from ridiculous and difficult situations and instead tries to force the pathos on the viewer much like the poor comedian who has been booked.



Bleasdale's reflections on society are there and there are subtexts of how the elderly and infirm are treated; the decay of modern society and old values; religious divisiveness and social prejudices among others, none of which are fully explored or committed to by either the actors or the script.

What you have is really a mess of a film which promises much but delivers little.

Like all of Bleasdale's work it is a snapshot of the times which inspired it however, like most Polaroids the sharpness began to fade straightaway.

Extras include the Making of and interview with the director Peter Smith.

*No Surrender* is released on DVD, July 25 by Second Sight. Cert 15

Danny Farragher

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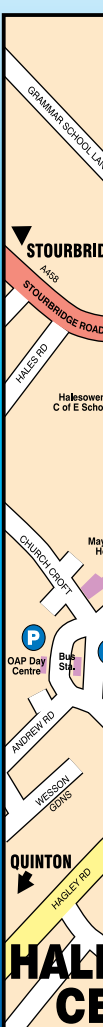
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which service is needed to market your property to help you make an informed decision. A refreshing change is that we are open 7 days a week from 8 am to 10 pm, we are available to be contacted at times when prospective buyers are available. Also during the sales process, up to completion, we are available at times that are important to you. Regular updates on the marketing of your property and during the sale process will be our priority, keeping you fully aware of each stage of the process. Fully trained professional staff are here to help you with your marketing strategy and to process your sale from start to completion.

Peter is a partner at Moneywatch Finance with over 20 years experience in the mortgage and property market, having spent 10 years as a Financial Consultant with Prudential and 7 years as the Financial Adviser within Shipways Estate Agents in Harborne & Hagley. Peter has also been elected to be a member of the Black Country Chamber of Commerce. He can also be heard regularly appearing on Radio WM, providing listeners with the benefit of his financial knowledge and expertise and can guide you through a comprehensive range of mortgages from the whole of Market and other associated services.

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## Council in homes sell-off plan

Two dozen council houses in Dudley which have been deemed too costly to refurbish are set to be sold off by borough bosses. Council chiefs also say they are looking to launch a pilot scheme later this year where people can live rent free in a local authority property for a set period if they pledge to spruce up the outside of the home.

The plans have been drawn up after it emerged there are just over 100 properties in the borough which

require major work – often over £10,000 of refurbishments. The houses could be sold off to local housing associations or even put on the open market for the public to buy.

Housing chief Councillor Adrian Turner said: "A strategic approach to deal with high cost voids was approved in March this year."

"We have now identified 24 properties that are uneconomical to repair within our budgets. These properties

will be disposed of ideally to housing associations but potentially utilising other initiatives including sale on the open market."

The trial scheme which would see residents allowed to live rent free while they carried out improvement works would only involve external repairs. The waiting list for a council house in Dudley stands at 7,677 including existing tenants looking to transfer to a new property.

## Lawyers net idea for cash

Accountants and solicitors from across Wyre Forest are donning their bibs for a charity netball tournament.

Staff at Kidderminster-based Prosser Knowles have invited fellow professionals from local companies to take part in the event at Stourport Sports Club, Kingsway this Friday from 4pm.

Other teams include DHJH Chartered Accountants, Thursfields Solicitors, Talbots Solicitors, Painter Solicitors and MFG Solicitors.

The minimum entry fee is £50 per team and all proceeds from the event will be donated to Kemp Hospice. A raffle will also be held.

Company director at Prosser Knowles, Nick Aston said: "We are looking forward to a fun event that will also raise much needed funds for our local hospice."

For details on the mixed tournament contact Siobhan Record on 01562 829222.

## £2,000 given

The total collected in Hagley, near Stourbridge, for the recent Christian Aid Week was more than £2,000 with the amount to be further boosted by Gift Aid.

## School wins solar panels

A Dudley school has become the first in the area to have solar panels fitted after winning a national competition.

Staff and pupils at the Brier School, Bromley Lane, Kingswinford, are now hoping for more summer sunshine following the completion of installation work.

The panels, estimated to cost around £20,000, have been provided by British Gas after the school entered a competition launched by the firm.

A total of 42 panels have been fitted to the school roof which will create around 10 kilowatts of power.

The panels are also connected to computers so pupils can check the power output and the reduction in carbon emissions as part of their science lessons.

To win, the school had to describe their environmentally-friendly projects.

Among the projects completed by the school includes a greenhouse made out of recycled materials, mainly plastic bottles.

Both the cost of the solar panels and also the installation has been covered by British Gas.



Jamie Cater, nine, front, and fellow pupils Jagsharan Singh and Meghan Griffiths celebrate the new solar panels with chairman of governors Roger Timmins, Mick Wilkie, of British Gas, and headteacher Russell Hinton

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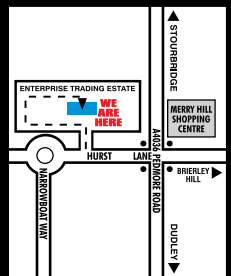
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# Final chapter of Harry Potter wizardry

HE is the boy wizard who revitalised the book business, boosted the British film industry and even conquered Hollywood, and tomorrow night the world-wide phenomenon that is Harry Potter will reach its epic conclusion.

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part II, which opens worldwide on Friday, July 15, is the eighth and last in the record-smashing film franchise adapted from JK Rowling's seven novels about a boy wizard.

And when author and the three stars – Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint and Emma Watson – stepped on to the red carpet in London for the premiere last week, they were entitled to feel both triumphant and poignant.

Hollywood studio Warner Bros took over Trafalgar Square for the red carpet premiere, making space for the anticipated crowds of fans young and old dressed in Harry Potter costumes.

## Anticipation

The seven movies released so far, which began with Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone in 2001, have grossed £3.9 billion at the box office.

Although the figures hide a steady decline in admissions – the first film is still the most successful – experts predict that the combination of higher 3D ticket prices and anticipation surrounding the final chapter could see Deathly Hallows 2 break records.

The Harry Potter series has made its three main child stars among the most recognisable faces in the world – as well as making them rich beyond dreams.

When the trio – Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson and Rupert Grint – were paraded before the world's cameras almost 11 years ago after an exhaustive casting process, they



Emma Watson and Julie Walters on the red carpet last Thursday for the London premiere of the final Harry Potter movie

were fresh-faced unknowns.

But now, just into their early 20s, they have a lengthy cinema career – and a combined wealth estimated at almost £100 million.

Radcliffe – who will be 22 on July 23 – has generated the most cash from his titular role as the hero. According to the Sunday Times Rich List the young actor is worth £48 million, ranking him fifth in the list of British millionaires under 30.

He had already had some on-screen experience by the time he landed the prized role as Harry, after appearing in BBC1's adaptation of David Copperfield and making his movie debut in John Boorman's film The Tailor Of Panama, alongside Pierce Brosnan.

Like his co-stars, viewers have seen Radcliffe grow up before their eyes with each instalment of the wizarding adventures. They have also seen him head off in surprising directions, aside from his Potter commitments. Most famously, these included his nude on-stage role in Equus in London's West End and on Broadway in New York. He also appeared this year in the

Broadway revival of How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying. Next year he will be seen in his first screen role since he finished the Potter films as a haunted solicitor when The Woman In Black – made by the revived Hammer Film company – is released.

In an interview recently, he said the trappings of wealth and fame were not really for him and that he had given up drinking after saying he had become "reliant" on alcohol. In contrast to Radcliffe's early screen experience, Emma Watson had only performed in school plays before landing her role as Hermione Granger. She was just nine years old when she was cast in the role which has contributed to a fortune reckoned to be worth £24 million.

Her elegant looks and poise have also led to modelling contracts including a stint for Burberry and she appeared in ads for Lancôme earlier this year.

The grounded star went to university in the US in 2009 but announced she was leaving earlier this year. It is thought she will resume her studies at Oxford in the autumn.

Rupert Grint, who has played Ron Weasley throughout the series, is also estimated to be worth £24 million. The 22-year-old has used his wealth to indulge himself in a collection of quirky vehicles which have included a Mr Whippy ice cream van, a bubble car and a Ford Anglia.

Like Watson, Grint had no previous screen experience before applying for the role – which he heard about on BBC1's Newsround. He appeared in his first non-Potter role just a year after the first film was released, starring in children's comedy Thunderpants in 2002. Then in 2006 he appeared alongside his screen mother from Harry Potter, Smethwick-raised actress Julie Walters, in the poignant drama-comedy Driving Lessons.

Now their post-Potter careers really get under way.



Boy to man – Daniel Radcliffe as he looks in the first and the last of the eight Harry Potter films



The trio when they were chosen for the roles in 2000

## Harry Potter facts

Around 450 million copies of J K Rowling's books have been sold in 200 territories worldwide. They have been translated into 70 languages.

The previous seven Harry Potter films have grossed \$6.4 billion to date – around £4 billion at today's exchange rate.

The previous Potter film, Deathly Hallows Pt 1, took £18.32 million in its first three days, the biggest opening weekend of all time.

During the making of the films, a total of 600 school uniforms have been made for pupils at Hogwarts. Leading man Daniel Radcliffe and his various stunt doubles have had Harry Potter's trademark scar on the head painted 5,800 times.

Radcliffe has worn 160 pairs of glasses during filming, and carried 70 wands.

A total of 588 different sets have been created for the films.

The Great Hall set is big enough to hold 22 London double-decker buses

A total of 250 different animals have been used during filming.

Around 1.7 million watched J K Rowling broadcast on the new pottermore.com website, which was launched last week. The site was visited by people from 214 countries during launch week.



Radcliffe, Watson and Grint in Deathly Hallows Pt 2

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<b>Saturday 23rd July</b> <b>BLACKPOOL</b> Return 30 <sup>th</sup> July	£35.00	£31.00	£25.00
<b>SUNDAY 24th July</b> <b>SOUTHPORT</b> <b>Air Show &amp; Seaside</b>	£18.00	£16.00	£13.00
<b>Saturday 30th July</b> <b>BLACKPOOL</b> Return 6.00 pm	£18.00	£16.00	£13.00
<b>Saturday 30th July</b> <b>BLACKPOOL</b> Return Sunday 7th August	£35.00	£31.00	£25.00
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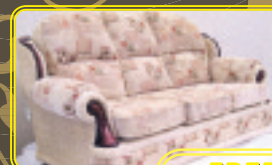


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## Choice



## CASUALTY

BBC1, 9pm

Fawcett Towers star Andrew Sachs appears in the hospital drama tonight, playing Mendel, who along with his wife Rachel (former EastEnders star Anita Dobson) runs a pharmacy. Unfortunately for the couple, they are being terrorised by a local heroin addict who is desperate for fixes. One day, when the addict comes into the chemist for methadone, Mendel stands up to him and is stabbed for his troubles. So, deciding enough is enough, Rachel adds a mysterious substance to the methadone, with unforeseen consequences. Meanwhile, Mads is still living in fear of her attacker, Ash, who has stepped up his threatening behaviour to another level. Can Lenny persuade her to go to the police?

## BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **10.00** Live Golf: The Open Championship. The morning's play on day three at the Royal St George's Golf Club. **12.00** BBC News. **Regional News: Weather. 12.10** Live Golf: The Open Championship. Hazel Irvine introduces further coverage from Sandwich. **5.15** BBC News. **Regional News: Weather. 5.40** Walk on the Wild Side. Comedy wildlife show, featuring the voice of Jason Manford. (R)

**6.10** **Total Wipeout.** Adventure game show, hosted by Richard Hammond and Amanda Byram. (R)

**7.10** **Tonight's the Night.** Girls Aloud star Nicola Roberts duets with a fan, Chris Boardman races a cycling-mad charity fundraiser and Nicole Scherzinger helps twin brothers perform a Bollywood dance routine. (R)

**8.10** **The National Lottery: In It to Win It.** Dale Winton presents the quiz show in which five contestants answer questions to scoop a big prize. Includes the Lotto, Lotto Plus 5 and Thunderball draws. (R)

**9.00** **Casualty.** A couple are terrorised by a heroin addict. (R)

**9.50** **Lee Mack's All Star Cast.** With Joan Collins, Ross Noble and the Wanted. (R)

**10.30** **BBC News: Weather.** National Lottery Update. **10.50** **John Bishop Live: Elvis Has Left the Building.** The comedian's stand-up show. (R)

**12.00** Film: The Money Pit. (1986) Comedy, starring Tom Hanks; Weatherview. **1.30** BBC News.

## BBC2

**6.00** CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **12.00** Antiques Road Trip. (R) **1.30** Great British Railway Journeys. (R) **2.00** Film: Jack (1996) Comedy drama, starring Robin Williams. **3.45** Film: Evelyn. (2002) Drama, starring Pierce Brosnan. **5.15** Live Golf: The Open Championship. Further coverage of day three from Sandwich. (R)

**7.00** **Flog It!** From Yeovil, Somerset. (R)

**7.30** **Dad's Army.** The vicar enlists in the Home Guard. (R)

**8.00** **The Impressionists - Painting and Revolution.** New series. Waldemar Januszczak studies the achievements of painters associated with the art movement, beginning by delving into the work of Pissarro, Monet, Renoir and Bazille. (R)

**9.00** **Have I Got a Bit More News for You.** Jo Brand hosts an extended version of the quiz, with Sally Berow and Charlie Higson joining regular captains Ian Hislop and Paul Merton. (R)

**9.45** **Secrets of the Pop Song.** Guy Chambers is joined by indie-rock trio Noisettes to write an anthem, with their efforts followed from initial idea to the first public performance. Last in the series. (R)

**10.45** **Big Hits: TOTP 1964 to 1975.** Performances from the first 12 years of Top of the Pops. (R)

**12.15** The Kennedys. (R) **12.55** Film: The Gigolos. (2006) Comedy, starring Sacha Tarte. (R)

## ITV1

**6.00** CITV: Mini CITV. **7.25** CITV. **8.25** Ten Mile Menu. (R) **9.25** Coronation Street. **11.45** This Morning. **Saturday. 12.45** The Planet's Funniest Animals. (R) **1.15** The Planet's Funniest Animals. (R) **1.45** ITV News. **Weather. 1.55** Film: The Mirror Crack'd. (1980) Miss Marple mystery, starring Angela Lansbury. **4.00** Regional Programmes. **4.15** ITV News. **Weather. 4.30** Film: Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. (2001) Fantasy adventure, starring Daniel Radcliffe. (R)

**7.15** **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 - Behind the Magic.** Behind-the-scenes look at the final film in the series. Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson and Rupert Grint share their feelings after a decade of Potter. Ben Shephard presents. (R)

**8.15** **Odd One In.** With Lorraine Kelly and Joe Swash. (R)

**9.00** **Penn & Teller: Fool Us.** The magicians challenge four more acts, including a team of French illusionists and a card expert, to outwit them with mind-boggling tricks. Jonathan Ross hosts. (R)

**10.00** **The Marriage Ref.** With Jack Dee, Jimmy Carr and Katherine Kelly. (R)

**11.00** **ITV News: Weather.** **11.15** **Film: Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels.** (1998) Comedy crime thriller, starring Nick Moran. (R)

**1.10** The Zone. (R) **ITV News** Headlines. **3.10** Goodwood Festival of Speed 2011. **4.00** **ITV** News. **5.30** **ITV** Morning News.

## Channel 4

**6.10** The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** The Film Show. (R) **7.00** FIM Superbike World Championship. (R) **7.30** British GT Championship. (R) **7.55** The Morning Line. **8.55** T4: Friends. (R) **9.25** T4: Hollyoaks Music Show. **10.00** T4: Smallville. (R) **10.55** T4: Friends. (R) **11.30** T4: Pop Up Pop Quiz. **12.20** T4: Dirty Sexy Things. **1.20** The TV Book Club. **1.50** Channel 4 Presents - Stephen Miller 2012. (R) **1.55** Channel 4 Racing. **4.00** Channel 4 Presents - David Smith 2012. (R) **4.05** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **4.35** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **5.05** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) **5.40** Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R)

**6.10** **Channel 4 News.** **4.40** **thought.tv.** Mike Davidson discusses his views on ordaining gay bishops. (R)

**6.45** **Film: Marley and Me.** (2008) Comedy drama based on journalist John Grogan's account of life with a mischievous golden Labrador he bought for his wife. Starring Owen Wilson. (R)

**9.00** **Camelot.** Morgan and Arthur exchange oaths of loyalty during a feast at Castle Pendragon, which is then besieged by Uther's old enemy Aldwulf. Adventure, starring Eva Green. (R)

**10.00** **Film: The Others.** (2001) Supernatural horror, starring Nicole Kidman. (R)

**12.05** Film: The Dreamers. (2003) Drama, starring Michael Pitt. **2.10** Film: CRAZY. (2005) **4.20** One Tree Hill. (R) **5.05** Wogan's Perfect Recall. (R) **5.30** Countdown. (R)

## Channel 5

**6.00** Milkshake! **10.00** Animal Rescue Squad. (R) **10.20** How Do They Do It? (R) **10.50** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.50** Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers. (R) **12.50** Rosamunde Pilcher's Winter. (R) **2.40** Film: Shoot-Out at Medicine Bend. (1957) Revenge Western, starring Randolph Scott. **4.30** Film: El Dorado. (1966) Western, starring John Wayne and Robert Mitchum. (R)

**7.00** **5 News Weekend.** **7.05** **NCIS.** The wives of two Marines are murdered and although Gibbs suspects they were victims of domestic violence, evidence suggests the case may involve professional killers. (R)

**8.00** **Law & Order.** A woman is accused of murdering her husband's mistress, but claims her actions were prompted by post-traumatic stress. With Dennis Farina. (R)

**8.55** **CSI: NY.** A software executive is poisoned. (R)

**9.50** **Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.** The murder of a college student bears all the hallmarks of a notorious serial killer, leading the detectives to believe a copycat is at work. (R)

**10.50** **CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.** Ray and Nick investigate the death of a vampire role-player. (R)

**11.45** **Inside Hollywood.** Magazine show. (R)

**12.00** SuperCasino. **4.05** Meals in Moments. (R) **4.15** The FBI Files. (R) **5.00** Hansa's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

## Digital

**ITV2** **6.45** Film: Back to the Future (1985) Sci-fi comedy adventure, starring Michael J. Fox. **9.00** Film: The Nutty Professor (1996) **11.00** Film: Terminator 2: Judgment Day (1991)

**ITV3** **1.45** Kavanagh QC **4.00** Film: Columbo: It's All in the Game (1993) **5.55** Agatha Christie's Poirot **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **11.00** Wycliffe

**ITV4** **11.00** Live Cycling: Tour de France. Coverage of the 14th stage from Saint-Gaudens to Plateau de Beille. **4.00** Goodwood Festival of Speed **2011** **5.30** Police, Camera, Action! **6.00** The Professionals **7.00** Cycling: Tour de France **8.00** Freddie Flintoff Versus the World **9.00** Film: Universal Soldier: Regeneration (2009) **11.00** Jean-Claude Van Damme: Behind Closed Doors

**BBC THREE** **7.00** Small Teen, Bigger World **8.00** Top Gear **9.00** Live at the Apollo **9.45** Film: Kidulthood (2005) **11.15** Family Guy

**BBC FOUR** **7.00** The Blue Planet **8.00** If Walls Could Talk: The History of the Home **9.00** Wallander **10.30** Sidekick Stories **11.30** Eddie Izzard: Stripped

**E4** **2.25** Hollyoaks **5.00** Friends **6.00** One Tree Hill **7.00** The Big Bang Theory **8.00** How I Met Your Mother **9.00** Friends **10.00** 50 Greatest Plastic Surgery Shockers

**FILM4** **3.20** The Mistress of Spices (2005) **5.10** King Solomon's Mines (1985) **7.05** Big Momma's House 2 (2006). Comedy sequel, with Martin Lawrence and Nia Long. **9.00** Iron Man (2008). An arms manufacturer invents a hi-tech suit of armour and uses it in the fight against evil across the globe. Superhero adventure, starring Robert Downey Jr and Jeff Bridges. **11.20** The Seventh Seal (1957)

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## Choice



### A PLACE IN THE SUN: HOME OR AWAY

Channel 4, 7pm

Jasmine Harman and Jonnie Irwin come to aid of Royal Navy Officers Sarah Johns and Steve Krosnar-Clarke who are feeling the stresses and strains of juggling busy careers as well as finding quality time to spend together, as either of them could be called abroad at only a moment's notice. The currently live on a military base in Swindon, but are keen to bag themselves a holiday home so they can have somewhere of their own to escape to. The big decision, though, is where do they settle – the Cornish coast or in the mountains of northern Italy?

## BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.00 Sunday Morning Live. 11.00 Country Tracks. 12.00 BBC News. 12.05 Escape to the Country. 12.35 Live Golf: The Open Championship. Coverage of the final day's play at Sandwich.

7.00 BBC News: Regional News: Weather.

7.15 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce introduces more items from the show's visits to Hutton-in-the-Forest, Chatsworth and the British Museum, including a painting that was given away in a competition.

8.00 Countryfile. John Craven discovers how a Bedfordshire aristocrat helped preserve one of the world's most endangered breeds of deer, and Katie Knapman celebrates the life of John Bunyan. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

9.00 The Apprentice: The Final. The last four candidates face the interview task to determine the winner, after which Dara O Briain speaks to the main players in the You're Hired! studio. Last in the series.

11.00 BBC News: Regional News: Weather.

11.25 Rory – Major Breakthrough. Rory McIlroy's triumph at the US Open; (Region) Programme.

12.20 Sign Zone: The Apprentice. (R) 1.20 Holby City. (R) 2.20 James May's Toy Stories: The Great Train Race. (R) 3.20 BBC News.

## BBC2

6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 9.30 Something for the Weekend. 11.00 Live Golf: The Open Championship. The final round at the Royal St George's Golf Club in Sandwich, Kent. 12.35 Live MotoGP: The German Grand Prix (Start-time 1.00pm). 2.05 EastEnders. 4.00 Great British Railway Journeys. (R) 4.30 Flog It! Travels Around Britain. 4.45 Songs of Praise. 5.20 Film: Creation. (2009) Premiere. Biopic of Charles Darwin, starring Paul Bettany.

7.00 Murray Walker: Life in the Fast Lane. A profile of the motor-racing commentator whose voice became one of the most recognisable on British television, and who continues to contribute to the BBC's Formula One coverage. (R)

8.00 Top Gear. Rowan Atkinson takes the wheel of the Reasonably Priced Car. Jeremy Clarkson compares the Jaguar XKR-S with the Nissan GT-R, and the presenters build a train – using caravans.

9.00 Coast. British connections to the Swedish coast. Last in the series.

10.00 Julia Bradbury's Iceland Walk. The presenter walks along the country's most famous hiking route.

11.00 Mock the Week. (R) 11.35 FILM: A Cock and Bull Story. (2006) Comedy, starring Steve Coogan.

1.05 Film: Junebug. (2005) Comedy drama, starring Embeth Davidtz and Amy Adams. 2.45 BBC News. 3.20 Close.

## ITV1

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. 7.25 CITV. 8.25 May the Best House Win. (R) 9.25 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 10.25 60 Minute Makeover. (R) 11.30 This Morning: Sunday. 12.30 Dinner Date. (R) 1.25 ITV News: Weather. 1.35 Survival: Tales from the Wild. 2.30 Inspector Morse. (R) 4.30 Midsomer Murders. (R)

6.30 Regional Programmes. 6.45 ITV News: Weather. 7.00 The Royal. A cowboy builder causes a flood in the casualty ward. Starring Gareth Hale.

8.00 Born to Shine. New series. Natasha Kaplinsky hosts an entertainment show in which celebrities, mentored by talented children, learn new skills in a bid to impress viewers and a panel of judges.

9.00 Law & Order: UK. A police hunt is launched when a boy goes missing from a merry-go-round, but with more than one suspect and no physical evidence, the search throws up more questions than answers.

10.00 ITV News at Ten: Weather.

10.15 FILM: Full Metal Jacket. (1987) Raw Marine recruits undergo harsh training under a domineering drill sergeant before their first clash with enemy forces. Vietnam War drama, with Matthew Modine and Adam Baldwin.

12.25 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.00 Motorsport UK. 2.50 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

## Channel 4

6.15 The Treacle People. (R) 6.25 The Hoobs. (R) 6.50 The Grid. 7.20 Canary Wharf Triathlon. 7.45 IPC Swimming European Championships. 8.40 T4: Hollyoaks. 11.10 T4: Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2 – T4 Premiere Special. 11.40 T4: T4 on the Beach Sessions. 12.40 T4: The Simpsons. (R) 1.15 T4: The Simpsons. (R) 1.45 Channel 4 Presents – Danielle Brown 2012. (R) 1.50 Coach Trip. (R) 2.20 Coach Trip. (R) 2.50 Coach Trip. (R) 3.20 Coach Trip. (R) 3.50 Coach Trip. (R) 4.20 Deal or No Deal. 5.20 Help! My House Is Falling Down. A bungalow in Lytham St Annes in need of repair. (R)

6.20 Channel 4 News. 6.50 4thought.tv. Dr Keith Sharpe discusses his views on gay bishops. 6.55 The Political Slot. How government cuts have affected the north of England.

7.00 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. Two Royal Navy officers search for a holiday home.

8.00 FILM: Australia. (2008) Premiere. An Englishwoman leads a cattle drive across Australia as the country is drawn into the Second World War. Epic romantic drama, starring Nicole Kidman and Hugh Jackman.

11.10 FILM: Charlotte Gray. (2001) Second World War drama, starring Cate Blanchett.

1.25 Amnesia. 1.35 Five Days to Midnight. (R) 3.10 Bob's Burgers. 3.30 Hill Street Blues. (R) 4.25 One Tree Hill. (R) 5.10 Countdown. (R) 5.55 Sali Mali. (R)

## Channel 5

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. 6.05 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 6.15 Fifi and the Flowerpots. (R) 6.25 Fireman Sam. (R) 6.35 Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends. (R) 6.50 Elmo's World. (R) 7.05 Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) 7.15 The Save-Urs! (R) 7.25 Noddy in Toyland. (R) 7.35 Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) 7.40 Hana's Helpline. (R) 7.55 Mio Mao. (R) 8.00 Little Princess. (R) 8.15 The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) Milkshake! Monkey. 8.30 Mist: Sheepdog Tales. (R) 8.40 Rupert Bear. (R) 8.55 Olivia. (R) 9.10 The Mr Men Show. (R) 9.30 The Milkshake! Show. (R) 10.00 Mexican Food Made Simple. (R) 10.30 New Cowboy Builders. (R) 11.10 The Restaurant Inspector. (R) 12.30 Rosamunde Pilcher's Spring. 2.20 Film: Captain Ron. (1992) Comedy adventure, starring Kurt Russell. 4.15 Film: Finding Nemo. (2003) Animated adventure, with the voices of Alexander Gould.

6.25 5 News Weekend.

6.30 FILM: Lost in Space. (1998) Sci-fi adventure, starring William Hurt and Gary Oldman.

9.00 FILM: In the Line of Fire. (1993) A secret service agent who failed to stop the Kennedy assassination tries to outwit a killer plotting to murder the president. Thriller, starring Clint Eastwood.

11.40 FILM: Storm Catcher. (1999) Action thriller, with Dolph Lundgren.

1.25 SuperCasino. 4.00 Meals in Moments. (R) 4.10 Great Artists. (R) 4.35 Nick's Quest. (R) 5.00 Hana's Helpline. (R) 5.10 The Milkshake! Show. (R) 5.35 Thomas & Friends. (R) 5.45 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

## Digital

ITV2  
4.25 Planet's Funniest Animals 5.00 Animals Do the Funniest Things 6.00 Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 – Behind the Magic 7.00 Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 – Behind the Magic 8.00 Superhuman: Super Strong 9.00 Peter Andre: Here 2 Help 10.00 Film: Along Came Polly (2004) 11.50 Film: Baby Mama (2008)

ITV3  
2.45 Bertie and Elizabeth 4.45 Film: Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (1971) 6.50 Mr Bean 7.55 The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes 9.00 Film: Empire of the Sun (1987)

ITV4  
2.00 Live Cycling: Tour de France. Coverage of the 15th stage from Limoux to Montpellier. 4.30 Chasing Legends 6.35 Police, Camera, Action! 7.00 Cycling: Tour de France 8.00 Premiership Rugby: Sevens Series 9.05 Film: The Island (1980) 11.25 Film: Raw Deal (1986)

BBC THREE  
7.00 Underage and Pregnant 7.30 Match of the Day Live. The women's World Cup final (Kick-off 7.45pm). 10.00 Family Guy

BBC FOUR  
2.10 Sahara with Michael Palin 8.00 The Lighthouse Stevensons 9.00 Formula 1's 60th Anniversary: Plus Ca Change 10.00 Film: I've Loved You So Long (2008) 11.50 Imagine: Ray Davies – Imaginary Man

E4  
3.40 Film: Star Trek: Generations (1994) 6.00 Friends 7.00 Smallville 8.00 Friends 9.00 Film: Top Gun (1986) 11.05 The Big Bang Theory 11.35 How I Met Your Mother

FILM4  
3.10 The Cat Returns (2002) 4.45 When Eight Bells Toll (1971) 6.35 Stardust (2007). Fantasy adventure, starring Charlie Cox and Claire Danes. 9.00 The Departed (2006). Gangster thriller, starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Matt Damon. 11.50 Scenes from a Marriage (1973)

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# Friday

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake 9.15 The Wright Stuff Extra with 11.10 The News Lunchtime, 12.15 (see Road Trucker) 1.15 Home and Away, 1.45 Neighbours, 2.15 CSI: NY (R) 3.10 Film: Emma's Wish, (1998) 5.00 5 News at 5; Weather, 5.30 Neighbours, (R) 6.00 Home and Away (R) 6.30 The 11.30 TV, 6.55 5 News at 7, 7.00 Cricket, 7.30 News Update, 8.00 Danger: Diggers at Work; 5 News at 9, 9.00 Castle, 10.00 The Mentalist, (R) 10.55 CSI: Miami, (R) 11.50 Inside Hollywood, 12.05 SuperCasino, 4.55 The 11.30 TV, 5.30 Game Show, 6.00 The 11.30 TV, 6.00 Rough Guide to Short Breaks, (R) 5.00 Wildlife SOS, (R) 5.35 House Doctor, (R)

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MON 25 JUL

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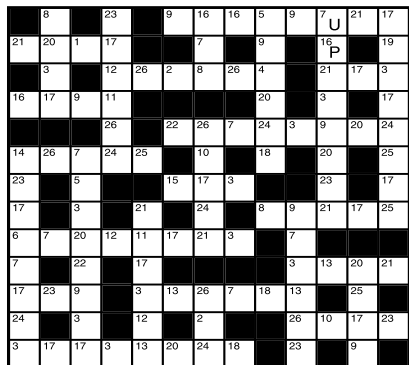


## Brain Gym

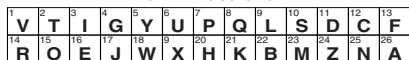
No.125

## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



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## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

## Cryptic Clues:

## Across

6. The soldier puts nothing in the report that's sent back (7)
7. It may be hard pressed by the driver in a hurry (5)
9. Finish Den off (3)
10. She is not highly noted as a musical performer (9)
12. Revise my ode on true scripture book (11)
15. More than one naval officer round the East compels military service... (11)
17. ...to provide more men to check violence (9)
19. The conscientious type will hold a pen (3)
21. Fights produce spells of illness (5)
22. Alight as a tailless bird! (7)

## Down

- 1 & 16Dn. Just the place made for watching splendid resistance (5-5)
2. See 18 Down
3. Principal character gives the girl a ring (4)
4. The servants are restin' badly (9)
5. I'm surrounded by artificial jewellery - it's a hobby (7)
8. Make somebody go without any fare (6)
11. Shoot, men, a tiger has run amok (9)
13. Fibrous cord for net put up by Spaniard (6)
14. Untidy bedroom shows lack of interest (7)
16. See 1 Down
- 18 & 2Dn. He issues a summons to those due to appear (4-3)
20. One politician can be a little devil (3)

## Quick Clues:

## Across

6. Related (7)
7. Confederacy (5)
9. Contend (3)
10. Softening (9)
12. Exercise of patience (11)
15. Blessing (11)
17. Oddly (9)
19. Purchase (3)
21. Verity (5)
22. Pacify (7)

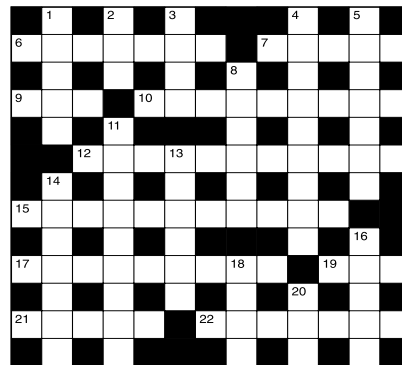
## Down

1. Intense (5)
2. To sum (3)
3. Appear (4)
4. Pointer (9)
5. Join (7)
8. Flexible (6)
11. Anticipation (9)
13. Span (6)
14. Make good (7)
16. Deceived (5)
18. Praise (4)
20. Harass (3)



OUT NOW!

## ALL YOUR PUZZLE NEEDS IN ONE HANDY APP!



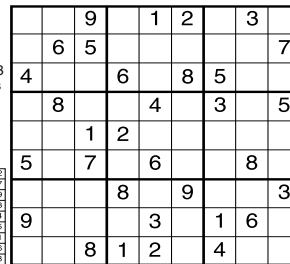
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:

CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Television-set; 8 Seamless; 9 Elan; 10 Births; 12 Insist; 14 Shovel; 16 Sesame; 18 Onus; 20 Remark; 22 Extraordinary. Down: 1 Feverish; 2 Pelmet; 3 File; 4 Airships; 5 Unless; 6 Beta; 11 Sale-room; 13 Symmetry; 15 Vestry; 17 Spring; 19 Next; 21 Made. QUICK - Across: 7 Inland Revenue; 8 Incident; 9 Idea; 10 Career; 12 Innate; 14 Debris; 16 Toucan; 18 Gain; 20 Reporter; 22 The White House. Down: 1 Inundate; 2 Malice; 3 Idle; 4 Restrict; 5 Region; 6 Rule; 11 Restrain; 13 Traverse; 15 Renown; 17 Uproot; 19 Ache; 21 Plea.

## Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

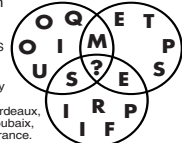
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS &gt;



## Circlegram

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION: The letter represented by the question mark is X. Bordeaux, Chamonix, Roubais, all places in France.



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All Week 1640

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 2 - 2D - (12A) - FLS

Friday, Monday to Thursday 1500 1800 2100

Saturday and Sunday 1200 1500 1800 2100

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PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - (12A)

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KUNG FU PANDA - (PG)

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WIMPEY KID 2 - (U)

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## Modern home in popular area

With stamp duty paid, this substantial and distinctive modern detached family home is priced at £194,950.

Forming part of a sought-after development, 11 Greenbank Gardens, Wordsley, has a superb conservatory extension as well as having three double bedrooms.

Set back, the property has a large block paved driveway which provides ample off-road parking, with the rear garden thoughtfully landscaped for low maintenance purposes and with the added benefit of a secluded rear aspect.

It enjoys a "twist" Stourbridge/Kingswinford address and is conveniently located with access to both towns, together with a superb collection of local shops and amenities available close by within the heart of Wordsley village. The reception hall is some

13ft 10in long with built-in cloaks cupboard, and guest cloak-room/WC.

A full-width lounge measuring 19ft 5in by 12ft has an Adam-style feature fireplace, with the dining area having stairs to the first floor accommodation.

There is a conservatory with French style doors leading out to the rear garden, as well as a separate dining room/office, and a spacious breakfast kitchen fitted with a range of white gloss finish moulded units, integrated dishwasher and electric hob, oven, fridge and freezer.

On the first floor there is a master bedroom with en-suite shower room, and two other bedrooms.

Outside, the rear garden has a block paved patio area with a gravelled/paved pathway leading alongside shaped lawns and further chipped patio to a timber shed and pergola.

Call Taylors on 01384 401777 for further details or for a viewing.



The conservatory at 11 Greenbank Gardens, Wordsley, has French doors that open to the neat rear garden



This modern home in Wordsley – on the market with Taylors – has an asking price of £194,950

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<b>BINSWOOD ROAD, HALESOWEN</b>  <b>SSTC NEW</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Well presented two bedroom first floor flat</li> <li>Spacious entrance hall with lots of storage</li> <li>Lounge/dining room with door to balcony</li> <li>Bathroom &amp; separate WC</li> <li>Majority UPVC DBG &amp; electric night storage heating</li> <li>Vacant possession - No upward chain</li> </ul> <b>£96,950 Ref: D1080</b>	<b>DAVENTRY GROVE, QUINTON</b>  <b>NEW</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Large 2 bedroom flat in cul-de-sac location</li> <li>21ft lounge diner leading to 11ft kitchen</li> <li>2 double bedrooms - fitted wardrobes in bed 1</li> <li>UPVC glazing &amp; gas central heating fitted</li> <li>Bathroom with shower over bath &amp; separate WC</li> <li>Surrounded by lawned gardens &amp; established trees</li> </ul> <b>£89,950 Ref: D1052</b>	<b>WIGORN ROAD, BEARWOOD</b>  <b>NEW</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unique &amp; modernised 2 bedroom apartment</li> <li>24ft open plan lounge &amp; fitted kitchen</li> <li>2 double bedrooms &amp; bathroom with white suite</li> <li>Private gated courtyard &amp; independent access</li> <li>Gas central heating &amp; double glazing fitted</li> <li>Lease with approx 150 years remaining</li> </ul> <b>£82,500 Ref: D1073</b>	<b>BARRS STREET, OLDBURY</b>  <b>NEW</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two bedroom mid terraced home</li> <li>Lounge &amp; separate dining room</li> <li>Downstairs bathroom with white suite</li> <li>Two double bedrooms &amp; bathroom on first floor</li> <li>Benefiting UPVC DBG &amp; GCH</li> <li>NO UPWARD CHAIN - VACANT POSSESSION</li> </ul> <b>£70,000 Ref: D1088</b>	<b>NEW ENGLAND, HALESOWEN</b>  <b>NEW</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Well presented first floor maisonette</li> <li>Lounge &amp; fitted kitchen</li> <li>Double bedrooms &amp; bathroom</li> <li>Allocated parking &amp; communal gardens</li> <li>Double glazing &amp; economy 7 heating</li> <li>vacant possession - no upward chain</li> </ul> <b>£69,950 Ref: D1078</b>	<b>BISHOPS WALK, HALESOWEN BORDER</b>  <b>NEW PRICE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Five bedroom home with double garage</li> <li>No upward chain - vacant possession</li> <li>Lounge, sep dining room &amp; study</li> <li>Breakfast kitchen, utility room &amp; d/s WC</li> <li>Master bed with en-suite shower room</li> <li>Fitted with UPVC d/g &amp; GCH</li> </ul> <b>£284,950 Ref: D1001</b>
<b>OAK ROAD, OLDBURY</b>  <b>NEW PRICE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extended link detached home in popular area</li> <li>25 ft (max) lounge/dining room &amp; conservatory</li> <li>Extended refitted kitchen &amp; side garage with utility area</li> <li>Three bedrooms &amp; bathroom with sep wc on 1st floor</li> <li>Driveway to rear garden with southerly aspect</li> <li>Double glazing (upvc in part) &amp; gas central heating</li> </ul> <b>£189,950 Ref: D1064</b>	<b>MONCKTON ROAD, OLDBURY</b>  <b>NEW PRICE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Semi detached home with delightful gardens</li> <li>Lounge, dining room &amp; refitted kitchen</li> <li>3 bedrooms &amp; bathroom on first floor</li> <li>Front garden &amp; off road parking to rear</li> <li>Fitted with GCH &amp; double glazing</li> <li>No upward chain - vacant possession</li> </ul> <b>£134,950 Ref: D961</b>	<b>WOODGATE GARDENS, BARTLEY GREEN</b>  <b>NEW PRICE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 bed terraced home with garage to rear</li> <li>Refitted 16ft dining kitchen &amp; lean to utility</li> <li>16ft lounge to front &amp; downstairs wc</li> <li>UPVC double glazing &amp; security system fitted</li> <li>No upward chain - vacant possession</li> <li>Usable garage - cul de sac location</li> </ul> <b>£89,950 Ref: D1065</b>	<b>PORTWAY ROAD, ROWLEY REGIS</b>  <b>NEW PRICE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved two bed semi with conservatory</li> <li>Re-fitted kitchen, lounge to rear</li> <li>Two double bedrooms &amp; bathroom on first floor</li> <li>Benefiting upvc double glazing &amp; gas central heating</li> <li>Lawned rear garden with patio - southerly aspect</li> <li>Hard standing up to front - potential for formal parking</li> </ul> <b>£84,950 Ref: D1063</b>	<b>WESTCOMBE GROVE, BARTLEY GREEN</b>  <b>NEW PRICE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ground floor maisonette with garage &amp; gardens</li> <li>Two bedrooms &amp; shower room</li> <li>27ft lounge &amp; 9ft 6 kitchen</li> <li>UPVC double glazing &amp; GCH</li> <li>No upward chain - vacant possession</li> <li>Garage en-bloc with up &amp; over door</li> </ul> <b>£74,950 Ref: D1041</b>	<b>GOWER ROAD, HALESOWEN</b>  <b>NEW PRICE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extended 4/5 bed semi detached home</li> <li>Refitted breakfast kitchen, lounge &amp; dining rm</li> <li>Bed 5/playroom/study with en-suite/DWC</li> <li>Sun rm/utility off kitchen, 4 beds &amp; bathroom</li> <li>Off road parking &amp; gardens to front &amp; rear</li> <li>GCH &amp; majority double glazing (part UPVC)</li> </ul> <b>£199,950 Ref: D619</b>

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An unfurnished semi detached house, on a popular road, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Lounge, Brand New Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Brand New Bathroom with Shower, Rear Garden, Driveway

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**CRADLEY HEATH, LUANNE CLOSE**

An unfurnished ground floor flat, on this popular development, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom with Fitted Wardrobes and Patio Doors onto Balcony, Bathroom with Shower, Communal Garden, Allocated Parking Space

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**OLDBURY, CAUSEWAY GREEN ROAD**

An unfurnished flat above shops, briefly comprising of: Electric Storage Heating, Spacious Living Room, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Parking at Rear

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**ROWLEY REGIS, WINCHESTER CLOSE**

An unfurnished first floor apartment, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Double Glazing, Bathroom with Shower, Parking Space and Parking Area for Visitors, Communal gardens

**£425 PCM**



**HALESOWEN, APPERLEY WAY**

A lovely unfurnished first floor 1 bed flat, on the popular Homer Hill Estate, briefly comprising of: Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, Parking to Side of Property, Communal Gardens

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**CRADLEY HEATH, VICTORIA GARDENS**

A modern top floor apartment, close to Old Hill town centre, briefly comprising of: One Double Bedroom, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom with Shower, Electric Storage Heating, Allocated Parking

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An unfurnished ground floor apartment, close to motorway access, briefly comprising of: Electric Storage Heating, Open Plan Living Room/Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Parking Space

**£395 PCM**



**HALESOWEN, MOUNT STREET**

An unfurnished and spacious ground floor flat, located close to Halesowen town centre, briefly comprising of: One Double Bedroom, Fitted Kitchen, Spacious Lounge, Shower Room, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, On Road Parking

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# £169,950 for a three-bed home



This modern detached in Brierley Hill is on the market with local estate agent Taylors

Offers around £169,950 are being asked for this executive style three bedroom detached home, close to all local amenities.

Built by Morris Homes, 17 Goldencross Way, Brierley Hill, is gas centrally heated with uPVC double glazing, comprising entrance hall, guest cloak, lounge, dining area, fitted kitchen, three first-floor bedrooms with en-suite to master and

family bathroom. The lounge measures 15ft 11in by 10ft 4in and has laminate-style flooring with archway leading to the inner hall with stairs to the first floor.

The dining room also has laminate style flooring with double-glazed French doors to the rear garden and a door leading to the kitchen with a range of base and eye level units, one and a half bowl stainless steel sink, plumbing for automatic washing machine and dishwasher, integrated gas hob, electric double oven and door to the rear garden. On the first floor the main bedroom has a built-in

wardrobe, with an en suite with shower cubicle, WC, pedestal hand wash basin and part-tiled walls.

There are two other bedrooms and a bathroom with white suite comprising bath with shower attachment.

To the front of the property the garden is laid to lawn with a driveway with off-street parking leading to a garage. The rear garden is also laid to lawn with borders with a range of shrubs and plants, paved patio area and gated side access.

Call estate agent Taylors on 01384 265265 for further details or to arrange a viewing.



A spacious lounge leads through to the dining area via an archway at number 17 Goldencross Way



The kitchen has base and eye-level units, one-and-a-half bowl stainless steel sink, plumbing for automatic washing machine and dishwasher, gas hob and electric double oven



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# The Top Gear star which now has a juicy future

REMEMBER when Jeremy Clarkson gave viewers a laugh on Top Gear, driving the world's tiniest production car, the quirky British hand-built Peel P50, to work – literally into his office?

This fun clip has gone down in history as the fifth greatest moment in the motoring programme – and arguably the funniest film Top Gear has ever made.

The video of the Peel P50's star performance has been rated top of the pops on the show's website by viewers from all over the world.

"It certainly was an unforgettable experience for all involved," said Faizal Khan of Peel Engineering, who, with his partner, Gary Hillman, resurrected the firm on the Isle of Man that originally manufactured the novel little one-seater Peel cars.

The pair caught the attention of entrepreneur James Caan, who decided to "adopt" Peel Engineering when the partners pitched their business to the panel on the BBC's Dragons' Den. It was Mr Caan's final investment through the show.

## Edition

With his expertise and investment, Peel Engineering took the road to fame with its three-wheeler micro-machines – including the legendary appearance on Top Gear.

The partners are busy, filling orders for the first petrol version road-legal Peel, available as a limited edition.

"Just as we thought, they are being snapped up, but we are still taking orders on our website," said Mr Khan.

The petrol Peel P50 does between 180 and 200 miles to the gallon, sports a 49cc engine and a top speed of 40mph, selling at £14,995 (excluding shipping and delivery).

The Peels come in eco-friendly electric versions too, capable of travelling up to 50 miles between charges and reaching speeds in excess of 35mph.

● For more information or to order, visit [www.peelengineering.co.uk](http://www.peelengineering.co.uk)



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Stunt driver Terry Grant set a record for two-wheel driving

# Goodwood's tribute to the heroes of speed

By Tony Adams

A RECORD crowd of more than 181,000 basked in brilliant sunshine at Goodwood Festival of Speed, near Chichester over the weekend.

The annual celebration of motoring also attracted over 100 guest racing drivers and motorcycle racers, including Sir Stirling Moss, Nigel Mansell, Jenson Button, Lewis Hamilton, Mark Webber and John Surtees.

Current F1 racing and test drivers relaxed and enjoyed themselves. They thrilled the crowds by filling the air with unbelievable noises from "drag race" style starts in their extremely high-revving state-of-the-art machines, leaving trails of rubber on the road directly in front of Goodwood House, the home of host, Lord March.

The 50th anniversary of the E-Type Jaguar was highlighted by a giant 28-metre-high sculpture of the iconic car, situated on the lawn in front of the house, and historic examples of Jaguar competition cars from over the years were paraded up the course, which was totally lined with spectators.

Rally fans had their own designated forest stage where famous international drivers and cars from over the years including the MG Metro 6R4, Audi Quattro and Lancia Delta showed their pedigree, together with the current crop of World Rally Championship cars including the brand new four-wheel-drive Mini WRC.

Motorcycle enthusiasts were spoilt for choice with a wide range of historic Grand Prix racing machines and the latest competition superbikes being ridden up the track, most of the time "pulling wheelies" to impress the assembled masses and display just how much power and performance they now have.

## Transformed

Stunt driver Terry Grant set a new record by driving a Nissan Juke the whole length of the 1.16 miles course on two wheels.

The cricket pitch had been transformed into Goodwood's own motor show arena and the long-awaited Range Rover Evoque could be seen, that's if you could get anywhere near it on the Land Rover display stand.

For the lottery winners amongst the visitors, the Supercar Paddock displayed just about every conceivable exotic and prototype car, including the Bugatti Veyron (now ever so slightly old hat, I'm afraid), the Aston Martin One-77 and my personal choice, the outrageous Lamborghini Aventador, a possible for sports car of the year.

Another theme for the weekend was a tribute to the centenary of the Indianapolis 500 race from the USA, and a line of bricks had been inserted near the start line at Goodwood, as a tribute to the American venue known as The Brickyard.

More than 30 Indy cars representing champions of the past and present lined up along the track, a genuine American marching band had been brought over to perform and rock musician Jeff Kollman played the US national anthem through large speakers from the roof of Goodwood House.

Although expensive to attend, the increasing spectator numbers aptly prove that Goodwood provides a rare opportunity to see and hear famous racing machines from all over the world, dating back many years, and to get close to the stars of the action, indulge in a spot of people watching, all in a true festival atmosphere, while feeding the need for the sights and sounds of speed.



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Irish stunt rider Mattie Griffin thrilling the crowds on his BMW F800R

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**ALL BODY REPAIRS** - Portway Resprays, Self prep from £200, Osborn, 0121 5523133.

## mobile mechanics

**ALL AREAS**, All Repairs, Ministry Qualified, 30 years experience. 01922 630634/07970 784091.

**MOBILE MECHANICS** Service & repairs. Headgasket, clutches and cambelts. 07747 849469.

## cars over £1500

**AUDI A4** 53 reg, 1.9 TDI SE automatic, 30,000 miles, FSH, 12 months MoT, leather interior, heated front seats, electric front seats, mirrors and windows 18" alloys, Dolphin grey. £5,095 ono. 07832 723347.

**AUDI T1 QUATTRO** 225HP 2003, 63k, glacier blue, 11 months MoT, 60k, 2.0 TDI, fish, pas, CL, £7,950 ono. 07807 032165.

**BMW 1 SERIES SPORT**, 55 plate, 2.0 diesel, 54 reg, silver, long MoT and 40k miles, £5,200. 07831 273290.

**BMW 320D M SPORT COUPE** First reg April 2007, 1 owner from new, 44,000 miles, alloy manual, 18ins alloys, metallic black, black leather upholstery, heated front seats, high beam assistance, auto wipers, MoT March 2012, tax Sept 2011, excellent condition. £15,000. 07976 353722.

**BMW 330CI CONVERTIBLE M SPORT**, 55 plate, silver, 37,000 miles, immaculate condition, fish, MoT March 2012, tax Sept 2011. £19,995. 01902 894107 or 07967 255569.

**BMW 320D ROADSTER**, 1997, red, 230 each, 07853 34378.

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**LAND ROVER DISCOVERY I V8i** Automatic, 1997, silver grey, 7 seater, 93,000 miles, petrol with a gas conversion, MoT June 2012, tax February 2012. £2,600 ono. Telephone 07774 179874.

**LOOK LANDROVER DISCO 300TDi** 1996, full MoT, taxed, enthusiastic, 92,000 miles, under-side painted, nice condition, new clutch, cam belt kit, alternator, water pump, brake pads etc. £1,850. 01902 657006.

**LANDROVER FREELANDER T4d**, 01, £2,500 extras, Red, chrome bars, 90k, Immaculate, CF, FSH, £3,550. 07894 157553.

**MAZDA 5 UNOS ROADSTER** 1991, 82,500 miles, rare 1600 auto collectors car, original spec, with immobiliser, AC, taxed and full MoT, silver. £1,650 ono. 07928 307751 / 01562 632291.

**MAZDA MX5 1.6 MONZA** 1997, 59,000k, one owner, excellent condition, alloys, 12 months MoT, £2,995 o.n.o. 01902 892525.

**MAZDA RX8 192 PS** red, 54 plate, 43k miles, 7 months MoT, good condition, £3,500 ono. 07815 200261.

**MAZDA RX8 230BHP** 05/55 plate. 51,000 miles, service history. Brand new MoT. Taxed till end Sept 11. £4,990. (hpi clear). Please call: 07966 815722.

**MERCEDES A CLASS**, 05 reg, A150 Petrol, Automatic, grey, 5 seater, 53k miles, alloys, Cat B. Reduced to £4,195. 07852 225618.

**MERCEDES E200** Avantard, 2002, all electric, excellent, full MoT, Bargain £2,450. 01902 495719 or 0771 178535.

**MERCEDES SPRINTER**, 3131CDi, Motor Home, 2 berth, 58 plate, very good condition, £10,000 ono. 07504 398907 (Telford).

**MINI COOPER** 1.6 auto, 56 plate, tax, 100k miles, low mileage, pristine condition, £7,250 ono. 07790 504358 or 01384 639518.

**FORD FIESTA STILE**, 58 reg, 1.25, black, 5 dr, excellent condition, FSH, 11k, 9 months tax, £5,200. 07811 479727.

**FORD FOCUS 1.6 DIESEL**, 55 reg, Long tax and MoT, 67,000 miles, Blue, £2,200 ono. 07908 857811, Wolverhampton.

**FORD FOCUS 1.8TDI LX**, 54 reg, CD, pas, AC, new 72,000 miles, black, full MoT and tax, £3,000. 07932 556605.

**FORD FOCUS CMX**, 1.6, 55 reg, 54k MPV, dark green, 42k, CD, £W, MoT May 2012, genuine rear window, 07891 594389.

**FORD FOCUS ZETEC 1.6 DIESEL** Estate March 08, 77,000 genuine miles, fish, Sat Nav, Bluetooth, met paint, too many extras to mention, 1 careful owner. £6,250 ono. 07710 426892.

**FORD FUSION 2.3** reg, 1.4, FSH, MoT, Tax, black, 07940 629202, excellent condition, £2,200 ono. 01952 201019 or 07812 130653.

**FORD KA 1.3**, 2002, 32 reg, 61,000 miles, burgundy red, 12 months MoT, pas, 6 months tax, CD, petrol, £1,895 ono. 01384 377927.

**FORD KA**, red, (52), 34,000 miles, 12 months MoT, 4 months tax, Chet first car, very good condition, £1,650 ono. 07941 873154.

**FORD MONDEO** 03-reg, 2.0 LX, 100k miles, 01902 270012.

**FORD MONDEO** 06, 65,000, white, (like gold), diesel, long tax, MoT, Useful features, reversing sensors, £2,995 ono. 07607 20139.

**HONDA CIVIC 1.8 TYP**, 56 plate, black, black, Tax, MoT, FSH, high miles hence £4,000. 01902 84117.

**PEUGEOT 207 1.6 SHDI** 08 reg, 5 dr, red, V6, MCL, AC, EM, Tax, MoT, FSH, Very good condition, £30 per yr Road Tax, 50mpg, Motorway miles 90,000. £4,995. Telephone 01902 418671.

**RANGE ROVER 4.0 auto**, 2000, 130k, met, blue, MoT/Tax Oct, leather interior, private reg, £2,750. 07890 730642.

**RENAULT CLIO 1.2 CAMPUS SPORT** 2006, 37,500 miles, silver, electric windows, air bag, air con, fish, MoT, central locking, tax, alloys, CD, spots, petrol, very good condition, drives like new. £2,550 ono. 07731 390130.

**RENAULT CLIO 55**, silver, 26k miles, immaculate, alloy, spare key, service pack, taxed, MoT'd, valued, £3,200. 07505 492972.

**RENAULT KANGOO** 1.6 Expression, grey, auto, 72,000 miles, recent service / cam belt change, four new tyres, 1 months tax and MoT till Feb 2012. £3,200. 07



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**FORD KA**  
51 plate, red, 88,000 miles, PAS, CD player, long tax, full MoT, just been serviced, looks and drives superb.  
**£1,195 ono.**  
01562 636131 / 07837 122887.

**FORD MONDEO ZETEC 1.8**  
1999, silver, MoT March 2012, alloy, 2 owners, old MoTs, nice original condition.  
Must be seen.  
**£600.**  
01384 340133 or 07856 878602.

**FORD PUMA 1.7, Reg. Red, 3 months tax, 3 months MoT, some history, good condition for year.**  
£550 ono. 01902 828079.

**HONDA ACCORD**  
W reg, sunroof, air con, electric windows / mirrors, cruise control, 60,000 miles, just serviced, 6 months tax, 12 months MoT.  
**£1,450.**  
07852 488883.

**KIA CARENS Diesel, 40mpg, 03, long MoT, 4 months Tax, 5000 spent MoT, swap for small diesel/LPG/bike. 07906 143520.**

**MAZDA 626, 5 reg, 11 months MoT, superb condition, high mileage, hence £500.**  
01902 256170.

**MERCEDES C240 Elegance, 1998, auto, 75k, MoT Nov. Family owned for 12 years, 1,000 miles, 01902 07719.**

**MITSUBISHI SPACE RUNNER, R reg, 1.8 GLXi, tax Feb, MoT Sept, very reliable, good condition, £395 o.n.o. 07974 450631.**

**NISSAN MICRA 1.3L, 5dr, 2000, 87,000 miles, CL radio/CD player, MoT June 2012, tax Aug 2011, £895 o.n.o. 07895 725556.**

**PEUGEOT 106 quiksilver, 58k, Reg. A, tax Oct, alloy sunroof, alloys, CD, tinted windows, 2001 Y reg. £1,495 ono 07809 380098.**

**PEUGEOT 306 Estate, 1900cc, W reg, 97,000 miles, maroon, e/w, long MoT, Diesel, new clutch, £800 ono. 07890 250190.**

**RENAULT CLIO 1.2 16V, Dynamique, 2002, one owner, 84K, FSH, MoT, tax May, £1,495 ono 07870 659310.**

**RENAULT CLIO 1.2 RT, 1999, 5dr, red, alloys, long MoT, Dec, 49K miles, good condition, £800, 01922 479070.**

**RENAULT CLIO 1.4 2001, 12 months MoT, new tyres, alloys, £1,200.**  
07976 764881.

**RENAULT CLIO expression, 12, 5dr hatch, 2002, silver, 12 months MoT, 5 months tax, excellent condition £1,500. 01384 885274.**

**RENAULT LAGUNA, 2000, 78,000 miles, grey, air con, central locking, petrol, £750 ono.**  
07525 395674.

**ROVER 45, 02, 1.8, 81,000 miles, silver, leather seats, MoT May, tax, e/w, c/l, Bluetooth, radio/CD, good condition, £1,275 ono. 07881 566483.**

**ROVER 75, 2000, Diesel, 146,000 miles, looks and drives like 40k, met green, long MoT, tax, leather interior, engine light on hence £880 ono. 07890 262789.**

**ROVER 75 CLUB 2.0 AUTOMATIC**  
W reg. Ivory white.  
MoT/Fax Octobers.  
30,000 miles, FSH.  
Excellent condition.  
**£1,395, o.n.o.**  
Telephone 01384 288826.

**ROVER 75, W Reg., petrol, full MoT, good condition, reliable, £1,100 ono.**  
01394 256719.

**SUZUKI SWIFT 10GLS, 2001, 80k, red, electric windows, long MoT, central locking, tax, £425 ono. 07976 350226.**

**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0, 2001, 3dr, blue, 82,000 miles, 9 months MoT, fsh, £1,300 ono.**  
01902 488911.

**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2, 1995, 5 door, good runner, 2 months tax, 5 months MoT, £450.**  
07791 350144.

**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXI, Y Reg., black, 11 months MoT, semi automatic, 57k, alloy wheels, f/w, EM, CD, £1,300. 07536 046304.**

**VAUXHALL CORSA 2000, MoT and tax, f/w, ES, very good condition £700.**  
Telephone 07759 737894.

**VAUXHALL CORSA CDX 1600, 1999, 10 months MoT, 8 months tax, 50,000 miles, fsh, complete with private plate M 2 L U E (Louise).**  
**£730.**  
01902 683601.

**VAUXHALL OMEGA 2.2 CD auto, W reg, metallic olive green, 10 months MoT, 4 months tax, 1st to see will buy £600. 07814 100089.**

**VAUXHALL TIGRA 1.6, N reg, tax, MoT, new brakes, excellent condition, 5500 o.n.o. 07527 198458.**

**VW POLO 1994, 1.0 Match, alloys, Michelin tyres, tax end of Nov, MoT Jan 2012, 86k, good condition, £550 ono. 01902 671259.**

## commercial vehicles

**FIAT DUCATO 2.0TD, 03 reg, taxed September, MoT March 2012, one previous owner, needs TLC. £1,275 o.n.o. 07931 148133.**

**LAND ROVER Discovery Commercial, TDV 6, 2008, 10,500 miles, metallic black, excellent condition, towbar, tax end of March 2012, £17,000 plus VAT ono. 01743 718868.**

**VAUXHALL MOVANO LWB Pannelled Van, 2002, 7 months Tax / MoT, white, clean tidy, £2,200 ono. 0121 357 3532 / 07930 888082.**

**NISSAN PRIMASTAR Van, SWB, diesel, silver, 2009, 12 months MoT, excellent condition, bargain £3,950. 07930 553305.**

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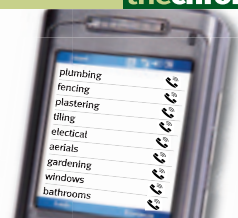
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## SPORT

## thechronicle

## Strongest swimmers victorious

**HALESOWEN SWIMMING CLUB**  
Mercian Summer League Round 3  
Saturday July 9

Halesowen swimmers travelled to Nuneaton for the Mercian Summer League final with the prospect of a tough evening in prospect.

However, it quickly became evident that Halesowen were the strongest team on show and took the lead from the very first event and extended their advantage through all 50 events of the competition.

All members of the team were outstanding and grabbed an impressive 23 wins with almost three-quarters of these in personal best times.

The result ends an impressive first half of 2011 for Halesowen swimmers and the Mercian League title adds to their Worcester Winter League and Worcester County Relay victories, with the junior team now confirmed as Division 1 finalists for the third year running.

Double event winners were **Beth Jackson** in the Individual Medley and Freestyle and **Mark Laing** in the Butterfly and Freestyle.

Other event winners were **Jack Simpson** in the Backstroke, **Sian Carey**, **Imogen Davies**, **Ruby Fell**, **India Hanke** and **James Cuthbert** in the Breaststroke, **Lauren Hill** and **Abi Hughes** in the Butterfly and **Jakob Baker**, **Harry Cowley** and **George Westwood** in the Freestyle.

The relay teams won half of all the events with Medley and Freestyle winning teams from the age 10 and unders including **Ben Meakin**, the boys 12 and unders including **Max Clapham** and **Rhys Richards** and the Open men including **Matt Chery**, **Sam Johnson** and **Andy Papworth**.

The girls age 12 and unders included **Emma Elwell** and **Molly Kelly** won the Medley relay and the Open ladies team including **Roxanne Taylor** won the Freestyle relay.

Points scores were: Halesowen 228, Nuneaton & Bedworth 185, Solihull 182, Leamington Spa 168, Worcester 159, Perry Beeches & SSS 127.

## Stour nailbiter ends with a winning draw

dudleychrons@expressandstar.co.uk

**STOURBRIDGE CC 1ST XI (18 POINTS)**  
**287-4, REDDITCH CC 1ST XI (4 POINTS)**  
**175-9 STOURBRIDGE CC WINNING DRAW**

Redditch 1st XI held the Worcestershire league leaders Stourbridge 1st XI to a winning draw in a nailing biting finish Stour failing to get the final Redditch wicket after a supreme batting performance.

Stour remain at the top of division one of the Worcester league 31 points ahead of second place Worcester Nomads.

Put into bat inform openers Matt Bradley and Steve Game took the score to 164 their highest opening stand of the season. Redditch failed to capitalise on couple of wicket taking opportunities offered up by Bradley in the 27th over with the score on 127.

Bradley pushed his score to 71 and was finally bowled by Thomas Phelan trying to up the run rate in the 34th over.

Game at the other end with a chanceless 50 not out was joined by Josh Banks with Redditch bowlers under the cosh. The number three immediately went on the offensive with a four and a six.

He and Game put on quick-fire 84 for the second wicket. Game was caught and bowled by Waqas Ali 20 short of a 100 in the 46th over. Banks continued to smash his way to 81 making 32 off his final dozen deliveries. Waqas struck again to see the end of Banks but Stour's score had rocketed to 287 for 4 off 50 overs. Audy Alexander was Waqas's third victim scoring 18.

Redditch in the relegation zone made the worst possible start to the mammoth chase losing Daniel Protherough to Jitesh Patel off his first delivery caught by kipper Greg Jones for 3. Tom Field went in the same manner for 8 James Musk the bowler.

A stand of 51 between Russel Southwick and Jeff Russell staved off further disasters. Kalpesh Patel trapped Southwick LBW for 40 in the 15th over which triggered a bundle of wickets for Stour rendering Redditch to irrecoverable 78 for 7.

James Musk saw off the middle order bowling from the football end. Stour's successful wicket taking formula once again at work but it came unstuck thanks to Luke Davis's courageous knock of 42 not out.

Stour's final dash towards victory in the closing overs with spinners operating at both ends

produced two more wickets. One was a brilliant direct hit run out from Audy Alexander of Geoffrey Ely for 39 just as the match was out of their grasp and Mikeshe Patel bowled Neville Mason for 8 with just 12 balls remaining to take the 10th wicket.

Davis' admirable skipper's knock remained exact and in the process scraped together 4 survival points for Redditch. Waqas Ali made sure that his captain's effort was not wasted remained not out. James Musk led the Stourbridge boys off the field having taken 5 for 51 off his full allocation of 17 overs.

**REDDITCH CC 2ND XI (15 POINTS)**  
**STOURBRIDGE CC 2ND XI (7 POINTS)**  
**196-8 REDDITCH CC 2ND XI WINNING DRAW**

Stourbridge 2nd XI match away to Redditch resulted in a losing draw after skipper Feraz Irfan put the opposition in. A decision that left his team facing a target of 257 for 6 off 50 overs. Stour bowlers struggled to penetrate the Redditch batting order despite James Winders 4 wickets haul.

Yasser Altaf 123 not out was the pick of the innings. A stalemate was reached as Stour went on to make 196 with 8 wickets down. Redditch failed to reach the finish.

**STOURBRIDGE CC 3RD XI (4 POINTS)**  
**50, BROMSGROVE CC 3RD XI (24 POINTS)**  
**143 BROMSGROVE WIN**

Stour 3rd XI lost badly at home against Bromsgrove 3rd XI despite bowling the visitors out for 143 in 45 overs. Paul Hutchins and Scott Burrows with respective scores of 28 and 33 kept Bromsgrove in the game. Shabir Butt bagged 4 of the wickets to fall for 26 runs off 11.

Expecting a win Stour were actually skittled out for 50 in just 24 overs.

Paul Hutchins taking the bowling honours with 5 for 7 runs off 7 overs. Home skipper Dan De Saullles will take issue with the state of the track after a heavy down pour the previous evening meant five of his batsmen were out for a duck, a record to be forgotten

**BROMSGROVE CC 4TH XI (4 POINTS)**  
**124, BROMSGROVE CC XI (24 POINTS)**  
**254-9 BROMSGROVE WIN**

The 4th XI lost to Bromsgrove 4th XI after skipper Keith Litster decided to bowl first. Getting an early success with the wicket of skipper Neale Ingram for a duck did not help Stour. John Lake (60) and Matt Benham (43) were two notable innings.

Stourbridge's innings lasted 34 overs bowled out for 124. John Lake ended up with 4 wickets for 16 runs off 6 overs.

## Tom battles back to form after crash



Tom with both his legs in plaster

Quarry Bank teenager Tom Grove has defied doctors' predictions by triumphing at his school's sports day – less than a year after breaking his legs when he was hit by a car as he cycled home.

Keen footballer, cyclist and athlete Tom, aged 13, broke both his thighs, a kneecap and two ribs. The bike was hit head-on by a car in Dudley Wood Road, Netherton.

Doctors warned it would be at least a year before he could play sport again – but he started back on the football pitch at Easter and has now won the 1,500 metre race at the annual sports day of Stourbridge's Pedmore Technology College and Community School.

"I've made a good recovery and built up my muscles and now I'm really proud of my achievement," said Tom, of West Street, Quarry Bank, who lived in Lantern Road, Dudley Wood, when his accident happened.

He spent eight days in Russells Hall Hospital. His mother, Fiona Grove, aged 37, said: "Doctors said he wouldn't be back doing sport for at least 12 months and weren't sure if he might be left with a limp."

"But he couldn't wait to get the pins out of his legs and went back to school in January and, by Easter, he was back full-time at his sport."

## Heathens to fly the flag in Swedish semi-final

DUDLEY Heathens will be flying the flag for Great Britain next month after providing no fewer than four out of the five-rider line-up for the European under-19 team semi-final in Sweden.

The youngsters will be in action at Eskilstuna against the hosts, Denmark and Germany on Saturday, August 6. Ashley Morris has

been picked as skipper by the management pair of Phil Morris and Neil Vatcher.

He will be joined by grasstrack convert Tom Perry and temporary Heathens signing Brendan Johnson. Mildenhall's Joe Jacobs completes the side with Dudley's Richard Franklin – whose knee injury prompted the move for

Johnson – expected to be fit again to fill the reserve berth.

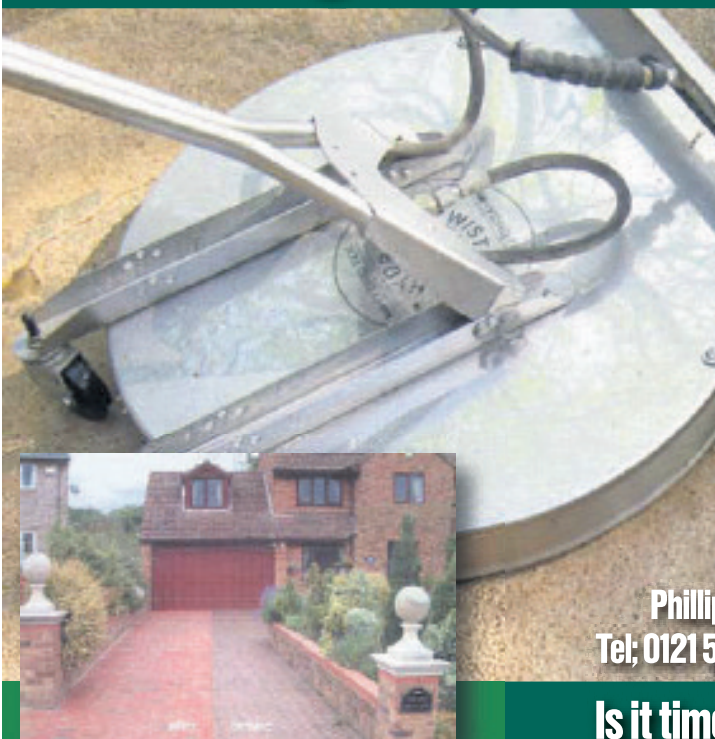
Heathens chairman Nigel Pearson said: "For the Heathens to provide three of the four starting line-up team members plus the reserve is quite remarkable."

"And I have to say it's not bad for a club which often gets accused of a win at all costs attitude. It under-

lines the fact that we are working closely with youngsters this season and for Ash to be named skipper of Great Britain Under-19s is a fantastic honour."

"Congratulations to Ash, Tom, Brendan and Rich, it's a terrific moment in their career. We at Dudley Heathens are proud and we wish them well."

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# sport

## Yeltz start with a pre-season winner

### HALESOWEN TOWN 3 HEDNESFORD TOWN 2

AN ENTERTAINING pre-season encounter was won by Halesowen who overcame Hednesford 3-2 at The Grove.

Following relegation in May The Yeltz will compete in Division One South & West of The Evo-Stik League Southern next season, under new owner Steve Lynch.

The signs for the new campaign looked good in as early as the 11th minute against The Pitmen as Nathan Jackson smashed a

25-yarder past visiting goalkeeper Sean Hayes. Hednesford responded with an equaliser nine minutes later through Danny Quinn, before Nick Wellecome flashed a 37th minute effort wide.

Quinn was denied by new Halesowen goalkeeper Paul Evans a minute later, while Darren Campion flashed a shot wide on the stroke of half time as Hednesford pressed.

Halesowen regained their lead after an hour when Nathan Coward's shot struck the post and Nathan Smith was on hand to

convert the rebound. Back came Hednesford yet again and they levelled for the second time when Chris Clements converted a 70th minute penalty after substitute Mark Danks was brought down.

But a fit-looking Halesowen outfit made it 3-2 in the 81st minute with the best move of the evening.

Keenan Meakin-Richards' free-kick was headed on by Chris Godwin and Coward then turned the ball across goal for Mark Smith to tap home the winning goal.

# HINGLEY AND COX CLOCK UP CENTURY

**Saturday 9 July 2011**  
**KENILWORTH WARDENS (3 POINTS)**  
**123 LOST TO OLD HILL (24 POINTS) 195**  
**- 6 BY 72 RUNS.**

The 1st XI game away at Kenilworth was played out on a difficult well worn pitch - but having chosen to bat first, Old Hill openers Mike Hingley (46) and Danny Cox (56) managed to put together a century opening partnership before being parted with the score on 108 in the 35th over.

Then, cameo innings from Nitesh Patel (34) and Nigel Davenport (25) took the visitors total to an impressive 195 - six wickets off their 55 overs. In reply, the home side got off to the worst possible start as Zafran Ali trapped Bell lbw. off the first ball of the innings.

From then on it was always an uphill struggle for the hosts as Old Hill made inroads into their leading batsmen, giving them no respite. Pick of the visitors bowlers was Nigel Davenport with

(5-31) closely followed by Sharkey Hussain (3-42) aided by some excellent fielding as Old Hill completed another brilliant victory on the road. They now need to improve their poor home record of just one League win so far at Haden Hill.

**OLD HILL (24 POINTS) 193 BEAT**  
**SHREWSBURY (6 POINTS) 174 BY 19**  
**RUNS.**

The 2nd XI played hosts to Shrewsbury at Haden Hill and having been put in to bat they found the going tough. After losing an early wicket, fellow opener Carl Whyte (18) and Chris Round (49) took the score to 47 before being parted. Although Jared Daniels (31), Dan Jones (24) and Dan Brosnan (17) tried to push on, the hosts were eventually bowled out for 193 runs in 47.3 overs.

In reply, Shrewsbury also found it difficult to score quickly as they were held in check by some tight bowling from the excellent Connor

Smith (4 - 35), Jared Daniels (2 - 54) and Captain Mo Javaid (2 - 12) with a wicket each for Dan Such and Shezad Aslam to give Old Hill victory by 19 runs in a close fought encounter as the last wicket fell in the 49th over.

**OLD HILL (24 POINTS) 242 - 8 BEAT**  
**HALESOWEN (4 POINTS) 146 BY 96**  
**RUNS.**

In the 3rd XI game at Wassell Grove against local rivals Halesowen, Old Hill batted first and amassed a huge total of 242 - eight wickets off their 50 overs with young Hamza Ahmed (42), Ravi Nagra (57), Winston Lewis (44) and captain Maurice Whyte (34) leading the way. In reply, the visitors were never in the hunt for victory as the hosts' bowlers held them in a vice-like grip and they were eventually bowled out for 146 in the 49th over. Best bowlers for Old Hill were Mitch Jeffery (3 - 25), and Winston Lewis (3 - 29) ably assisted by George Derham

(3 - 5) as they ran out winners by a massive 96 runs.

**HALESOWEN (5 POINTS) 167 LOST TO**  
**OLD HILL (20 POINTS) 170 - 8 BY 2**  
**WICKETS.**

In their local derby at The Earls Ground, the 4th XI played out yet another wildly fluctuating game against League leaders Halesowen. Having invited the hosts to bat first, Old Hill proceeded to bowl Halesowen out for 167 runs in 41 overs with Danny Claves (4 - 45) and Izzy Khan (3 - 36) being the visitors' best bowlers.

Old Hill's reply got off to a cracking start as Jon Baig Jr scored 81 runs off 38 balls before a massive collapse left the visitors still needing 20 runs to win with just two wickets remaining. However, some sensible batting from Danny Claves helped Old Hill across the line as they won the game with 18 overs left. This was their fourth consecutive victory. This result meant that for the third time this

season, all of Old Hill's teams achieved well merited victories in their respective leagues.

**Sunday 10 July 2011**  
**OLD HILL (1 POINT) V WATERFRONT (1**  
**POINT) - MATCH ABANDONED.**

The Sunday XI game at Haden Hill began in fine weather with Waterfront taking first knock. However, with the visitors' innings standing at 148 - 5 wickets off 31 overs, the heavens opened accompanied by thunder and lightning and the match had to be abandoned.

**Saturday 16 July 1st XI at home**  
**to Coventry & NW, noon start.**

**2nd XI away at Moseley, 12.30**  
**p.m. start.**

**3rd XI away at Hanley Castle,**  
**1.30 p.m. start.**

**4th XI at home to Hanley**  
**Castle, 1.30 p.m. start.**

**Sunday 17 July**  
**Sunday XI at home to Chaddes-**  
**ley Corbett, 2.00 p.m. start.**

**Derek Griffiths**

## Pederson making a comeback, at 48



Jan O Pedersen with the 1991 world champion trophy  
Picture: Retro Speedway

CRADLEY speedway great Jan O Pedersen is making a comeback - at the age of 48.

And he'll be riding in Britain for the first time in nearly 20 years as a side attraction to the Dudley Golden Hammer individual meeting on Tuesday, July 26.

The Dane, one of the most spectacular riders in Heathens history, will tackle old Wolves foe Sam Ermolenko in a series of match races at Monmore Green.

But Pedersen, who quit the sport in 1992 after suffering severe back injuries in a crash in Denmark, is looking further ahead - and is serious about his return to action.

He has taken out a British racing licence through the Auto Cycle Union, the nation's governing body for motorcycle sport, and has been practising in Poland.

And he can't wait to get back on track in front of the Heathens fans. "It will be a fantastic night," he said. "I'm so looking forward to it."

But why now? "I've missed the enjoyment of racing," he said. "The way I dealt with not being able to ride back then was to keep away from speedway."

"But a lot of things have happened in my life in the last 15-20 years, especially the last five."

### Learned

"I went to a pain clinic in Denmark and learned a lot about my injury which I didn't know beforehand."

"The other thing is that I have had some ups and downs but I met my wife in December 2009 and we got married eight months later."

"My Julia, we kind of knew each other as children but I hadn't seen her since she was 13. We didn't meet for 30 years. But then we met and apparently, and she's saying it is OK for me to say this, she always had a crush on me!"

"That is one thing I have never really had in my life, a proper, settled-down relationship. It's done me good."

"We will work on being happy and what that means is that I will be racing! I will do the best I can, that's my personality. The way I rode was 100 per cent."

Fired by domestic bliss and armed with a better medical bulletin on his back, Pedersen contacted the Danish authorities about renewing his licence. The 1991 world champion was told to take the two-stage novice's licence he passed in 1976! But with the Danish authorities still worried about his medical state, he got a British ACU licence instead.

All that is now wanted to complete his happiness is a stadium for the revamped Heathens.

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# Aston will return to the ring for autumn bout

RYAN Aston will box again in September after plans for a third fight in a month fell through - and backer James Dickens could be joining him in the corner.

Dudley fighter Aston will appear at Birmingham's Tower Ballroom on September 23 on a Dave Coldwell-promoted bill, which will also see the professional debut of Coseley's Tommy Ghent.

Both fighters are the pride of Priory Park Amateur Boxing Club in Dudley and have recently signed three-year contracts with David Haye's promotional company, Hayemaker.

And, while Hayemaker plot their path to success in the pro-game, Dickens will be supporting them every step of the way.

The 28-year-old is a successful businessman and chief executive of Edgbaston-based property developer Hackett & James.

His influence has not only landed Aston and Ghent stable day jobs as contractors, but has also allowed Priory Park to embark on a radical new extension that could change the club forever.

They were recently quoted a whopping £250,000 for the work they want done but Dickens is hoping to get that down to £100,000, barely above the price of materials.

### Fundraiser

His company will use their own labour force to make Priory Park's dream a reality and, thanks to a fundraiser organised by Hackett & James, the club are only £30,000 away from their target and have already been granted planning permission.

If their plans come together, a second main room will provide space for an additional ring, more punch and speed bags, along with the capacity to hold more than one class at a time.

And while the foundations to secure Priory Park's future are being laid, it looks as if Dickens, who trains and has

dudleychrons@expressandstar.co.uk

boxed for the club, will be a part of boxing for some time to come.

The wheels are in motion for Dickens to take his 'seconds' licence, allowing him to be in the corner when Aston and Ghent step through the ropes.

Aston already has two straight victories inside the space of seven days as a pro at middleweight - with win number two coming on the undercard of Haye's multi-world title tussle with Wladimir Klitschko in Germany last Saturday.

Dickens joined Aston on the trip and the 20-year-old fighter feels he owes a debt to 'the boss'.

He said: "Wherever I go in the pro-game, I will have a lot to thank James for and he will be there with me."

"He loves the sport. He's always going to be behind us and whatever way he can help us out he will do it."

"You want people with who you are all for the good of boxing, not the bad. I don't just work for him, he's one of my mates."

"He's the best boss in the world to work for, I have got no stress and worries outside of boxing and that will help me get to where I need to be."

Aston now has a two-month break from action but should have been boxing in two weeks' time after lining up a fight on a Matchroom show in Cardiff.

That fell through when one half of the main event, European lightweight champion Gavin Rees, pulled out with a hand injury.

But Aston is still on cloud nine after his part supporting the sport's biggest heavyweight title fight for a decade, which went against Haye on a unanimous points decision.

### Preliminaries

The Black Country lad rubbed shoulders with George Foreman, Lennox Lewis and Michael Buffer during the preliminaries at Hamburg FC's Imtech Arena.

Haye's constant barracking of Klitschko pre-fight saw him take the flak in defeat, which was blamed by the Londoner on a broken toe.



Priory Park ABC boxers Tommy Ghent and Ryan Aston, front from left, with trainer Paul Gough, back left, and sponsor James Dickens

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